

THE THIRD MEETING OF THE A.A.P.S.O. PRESIDIUM

Aden — PDRY, 19 - 20 January, 1976



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AGENDA

1. *The support and solidarity with Angolan people led by MPLA.*
2. *International solidarity with the peoples of Arab Peninsula and the Gulf in their struggle for national independence and social development.*
3. *The role of AAPSO in achieving peace and justice in the Middle East and solidarity with the Palestinian Arab people to secure their legitimate national rights and to put an end to the serious situation prevailing in Lebanon.*
4. *International solidarity with the militant struggling people of Southern Africa against apartheid and for national liberation and in particular the support to the People's Republic of Angola, led by MPLA.*
5. *Struggle against neo-colonialist and neo-fascist subversion in Asia, and AAPSO contribution to peace and security in Asia against imperialist military bases in Pacific and Indian Oceans.*
6. *The future tasks of AAPSO in the struggle for a new International Economic Order, development and the strengthening of the movement for non-alignment.*
7. *Solidarity with the national liberation struggles in Latin America particularly with the people of Chile.*
8. *Solidarity with the people of Korea in his struggle against the U.S.A. imperialist interference.*
9. *The last developments concerning the problem of the Sahara.*
10. *Organisational report.*



**Mr. Youssef El Sebai,
chairman of the Presidium,
delivering his speech.**

**INTRODUCTORY SPEECH
OF Mr. YOUSSEF EL SEBAI,**

**Chairman of the Presidium
and AAPSO Secretary-General**

Dear Friends,

Allow me to start my report by extending warm greetings to the delegations of the Third Session of the AAPSO Presidium and its guests as well as by expressing firm confidence that the activities of this session will strongly consolidate the Afro-Asian solidarity movement and reinforce anew the ties of militant solidarity among all detachments of the movement combatting imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism and Zionism. It will also be a concrete contribution to the mobilization of all ranks of progressive forces struggling for national liberation, for economic and social progress, and development for the welfare of the peoples as well as for a world where lasting and firm peace prevail.

Allow me, as well, to extend deep thanks and gratitude to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and its unified political organisation, the National Front, as well as to its revolutionary leaders, comrade Abdel Fattah Ismail, National Front Secretary-General, Comrade Salem Robayyeh Ali, Chairman of the Presidential Council, Premier Nasser Mohamed and the brothers in the leadership of the Yemeni Peace and Solidarity Council in the People's Democratic Yemeni Republic, for their warm reception and hospitality as well as for the potentialities and material aid they provided to create the best conditions for the success of our work.

It is most significant that the third session of our Presidium be convened in Aden, the capital of the PDRY which

pursues a pioneer revolutionary course as well as assumes an extremely important progressive role whether on the scene of Arab struggle or in the battle of world progressive forces.

The movement of the Afro-Asian peoples, scored significant historic victories during the period between the last and the present sessions of our Presidium. Such victories are apt to intensify the major radical changes in the world power balance in favour of forces of peace and progress while increasing our determination to continue our just struggle to the end, for the liquidation of the last bastions of imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, oppression and racism.

Imperialism, however, never laid down arms, nor will it do voluntarily; it is rather desperately trying to defend its last remaining strongholds as well as attempting infiltration to return to its old centres of influence. Hence, we have to absorb all lessons of our previous militant experience and deeply recognize that our first weapon in all our battles is holding to firm unity among all detachments of anti-imperialist forces at the national and Afro-Asian levels as well as in the international sphere. It is also the close alliance between the national liberation movement, the socialist community and progressive forces throughout the world.

Under such conditions, the issues of economic and social development gain even greater importance, for the genuine political independence should depend on a firm basis of economic independence as well as on wide-scale social activities for the welfare of the popular masses in the newly liberated countries which are the true buttress of independence and the tough defender of the independent development of their countries.

All this present us with new tasks which need discussion as well as urge us to epitomize all our experiences and try to draw the necessary lessons which would illuminate the way for our activities in the future.

Meanwhile, the non-aligned countries are greatly interested in resolving the economic problems of the developing countries. Their activities in this respect, thwart the dangerous manoeuvres of imperialism as well as exercise an increasing and constant pressure on it.

The AAPSO strongly supports all resolutions and progressive actions adopted by the Non-alignment Movement.

Imperialism, however, still represents the major barrier before the march of the developing countries towards liberation and progress, imperialism does not only block the economic and social progress of those countries, but it also adopts an antagonistic stand towards those countries which oppose its plans, while trying to impose on them political, social and economic systems which help maintain foreign domination, dependence and colonialism.

AAPSO will, most certainly, efficiently execute its noble historic mission on this struggle against colonialism in all its forms.



The members of the Presidium greet the participants.

SPEECH OF
COMRADE ABDEL FATTAH ISMAIL

Sec. Gen. of the National Front of P.D.R.Y.

Dear Comrades and Friends,

In the name of the AAPSO Presidium we open the first public session of the Presidium Third Meeting.

I take the pleasure on behalf of the Central Committee of the Unified Political Organisation, the National Front, and the Yemeni Peace and Solidarity Council in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, to welcome you at the inauguration of the Third Meeting of the AAPSO Presidium.

It is with deep feelings of pride and appreciation that we see the convening of this meeting in our country, and the participation of eminent social and political personalities of high international standing in the struggle for the noble objectives sincerely and truly sought by AAPSO so as to realise the victory of causes of peace and solidarity among the peoples.

In fact, the convening of this meeting in our country and the participation of these brotherly and friendly delegations from various countries over the world and which comprise experienced militants and bright symbols of international struggle for peace and solidarity, could be considered an international demonstration on the part of representatives of world peoples in support of the struggle of our people, and a highly significant contribution to the triumph of our persistent struggle to score larger and deeper successes in the revolutionary process underway in our country aiming at building up a new life where prosperity and progress would be achieved in the interest of vast masses and for man's welfare.



The members of the Presidium during the opening session.

Dear Comrades and Friends,

This day, 137 years ago, our Yemeni people fell under the occupation of the British colonial troops and our Yemeni people in this small courageous city waged a brave and heroic struggle in face of the invaders. However, it could not have been possible for the struggle of our people to bring about, then, the defeat of the aggressive forces. Our people continued to struggle valiantly to restore its national freedom and sovereignty triggering one upsurge after another until this long march of struggle was crowned by the break-out of the October 14th Revolution in 1963 and the victory of the Revolution on November 30, 1967 when our people gained national independence.

With the rectification step of June 22, 1969, the control of the rightists over power and the Organisation came to an end and our country started its new militant march on the course of construction and progress in the interest of the largest working masses of our people.

Today, and after 129 years of occupation, our country becomes a fortress of the national liberation movement. The capital of our country, this valiant small city, opens its arms to receive with pride and appreciation those prominent militant comrades. They are meeting today to discuss means capable of reinforcing solidarity between the people's forces to destroy the remaining hideouts of conspiracy, aggression and exploitation in Asia and Africa and to consolidate the hold of the forces of liberation, peace and progress in the world. This fully accords with our solidarity stand as part of the international revolution movement as well as goes in concert with our revolutionary course guided by the scientific socialist thought and which represents our people's will to build its new life on all political, economic, social and cultural levels.

Dear Comrades and Friends,

Our meeting today comes within just a few days of the celebration by the peoples of Asia and Africa, and with them

all progressive human forces the world over, of the 18th. anniversary of the foundation of AAPSO.

The birth of the Organisation was a natural response to the emergence of the revolutionary and objective need to find effective means for the reinforcement and development of solidarity and mutual aid among the peoples of the continents of Asia and Africa in their common struggle with all progressive human forces and to stand in one front against the forces and aggressive forces of world imperialism.

The period preceding the foundation of the Organisation was characterised by the overwhelming and comprehensive upsurge of the national liberation movement in Asia and Africa as well as the growth of the revolutionary tide in the world. In Africa, Asia and Latin America, the struggle of peoples against colonialism and imperialism was escalated as never before. The great victories achieved by the peoples of the Soviet Union and other liberation and progress forces in destroying the armies of Fascism and Nazism in Europe as well as Japanese militarism in Asia, and the emergence of the international socialist system after the Second World War, had their great and clear impact on the consolidation of the struggle of the people's forces for national liberation and social progress.

Hence, the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organisation had to be created for the reinforcement of the peoples' movements and the support of their struggle against the forces of imperialism and aggression.

The Organisation effectively contributed over 18 years to the reinforcement and escalation of the struggle of the two continents and the establishment of their militant struggle with the struggle of progressive humanity for liberation, peace, democracy and progress.

With the beginning of this year, the Organisation enters its 18th year with a large fund of experience and of achievements. It derives today its prominent role from the high standing it enjoys as one of the World's major forces firmly

fighting for the objectives of liberation, democracy and peace for the peoples of the world at large.

Dear Comrades and Friends,

The outstanding successes, scored by peoples of all continents over the past years, led to radical changes in the balance of forces at the international level in favour of the forces of liberation, democracy, peace and socialism.

In this sphere, the positive results realised by the countries of the international socialist system and with them all forces of progressive humanity in their struggle for a system of firm security and cooperation among the peoples and countries of Europe regardless of the disparity in their political, economic and social systems, and to eliminate the spectre of nuclear war, final recognition of the existing borders between the countries of Europe after the Second World War, non-intervention of the internal affairs of others and struggle to put an end to arms race. The successes realised over the last period are an important factor in the victory of the peoples' causes in the world over, while the significant steps realised in the context of peaceful co-existence between the countries of different social systems, created a better climate for the consolidation and victory of the peoples movements.

Meanwhile, the victories scored by the peoples of Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos against the forces of American colonial invasion during their heroic struggle, their success in driving out the aggressive invaders and their march in the course of progressive construction, the national independence of the peoples of Guinea Bissau, Mozambique, Cape Verde Islands, Sao Tome and Principe, and finally of Angola, and the fall of the Portuguese colonial regime as the last link in the old World colonial system by the downfall of the Salazar-Caetano fascist regime, all this promotes the growth of the international revolutionary movement as well as increases the gravity of the crisis of capitalism and colonialism. This opens as well larger vistas for new victories for the people's forces on the course of the realisation of their noble objectives.

The past years were fraught with fruitful results in favour of the liberation struggle of the Arab Palestinian people under the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) with the new victories, the increasing isolation of Israel and the gravity of its internal crises as a society based on racism, aggression and expansion while driving its existence and persistence in aggression from world imperialism, particularly the imperialism of the United States.

Overwhelming victories are being achieved today in favour of the people's forces in our contemporary world and the forces of imperialism and colonialism are not capable anymore of halting the progressive revolutionary tide. The current period of human development is characterized by the enlargement and expansion of the international revolutionary movement while the successes of the International Socialist system are more firmly established. At the same time, the struggle of the world working class and its vanguard parties in the capitalist countries is stepped up and the national liberation movement scores successive victories while the crisis of the imperialist forces is becoming more acute.

This does not mean, in any case, that imperialism has laid down its arms. On the contrary, as imperialism finds itself amidst all these developments it escalates its aggression in a bid to recover its old influence.

For this purpose it exerts frenetic efforts to substitute its old methods by new diversified ones. However, this does not mean that it has completely abandoned its old methods. In this manner, imperialism resorts to murder, repression, destruction as well as direct and indirect intervention in the home affairs of people. It also resorts to increasing investment, exploiting the wealth of the peoples under its influence, engineering reactionary and fascist coups, innovating new forms of destruction, evading any international decisions, attempting to revive the aggressive military pacts destroyed by the forces of the people and setting up new military aggressive pacts aimed at creating new hotbeds of tension that threaten the hopes and aspirations of the people.

Dear Comrades and Friends,

As we discuss issues and define tangible means for promoting and consolidating the struggle of the Afro-Asian peoples we come to the task of working for the consolidation of the new achievements and the growing success of the progressive humanity.

Undoubtedly, all this requires the continued unmasking and perpetual unveiling of the acts of the imperialist, racist, fascist and reactionary forces. This also demands the firm support for the struggle and the national legitimate just rights of the peoples of both continents as well as enhancing our cohesion with the peoples of Latin America and all the forces of the international revolution, chief among which are the countries with socialist systems. They are the revolutionary vanguard of the forces at present and the main supporter of peoples in their struggle for liberation and in their march along the path of building and progress.

Dear Comrades and Friends,

The pressing need for developing the potentialities and effectiveness of the struggle and the national liberation movement of the Asian peoples has underlined the necessity of intensifying efforts and endeavours on a large scale for the liquidation of pacts and military bases in Asia. It has also pointed out the necessity of creating strong ties of solidarity among the peoples and countries of the Asian continent on the basis of cooperation, mutual interest, balanced relations and respect for the rights of all peoples.

Such legitimate needs of the peoples of Asia which life demands widely, strongly and increasingly, have been due to the successes achieved by the peoples of the Asian continent and their national liberation movements. However, there are still many focuses of tension and aggression in Asia, and these hinder the answering of the Asian peoples' needs for a secure and happy life, free from oppression, social and national persecutions and from the possibility of facing unjust colonialist war.

The stooges of imperialism, its watch dogs and the spreading military bases still constitute aggressive forces against which peoples should escalate their struggle for the sovereignty of peace, cooperation, mutual respect and the free and independent development of the people of the continent.

The struggle for consolidating the peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia in the building of their new life; and the support to the people of Korea in its struggle for the reunification, peacefully and democratically, of the two Koreas, as well as the welding with the struggle of the people of India against the rightist fascist forces, constitute tangible and important steps for bringing about victory for the struggle of these peoples.

Foremost among these steps is the decisive check of the fascist and military Iranian acts intended against the peoples of the Arab area and their just and national rights.

The fascist and military regime in Iran constitutes one of the main supports for U.S. imperialism, directly intended against the national interests of the peoples of the Arab peninsula, the Arab Gulf and the Arab countries, in particular, and the peoples of Asia, in general. For sometime, it has been trying to actually implement the imperialist schemes and threats to seize the sources of oil. This is evident through the wide military invasion campaigns in full agreement with the puppet Kabos regime in the Oman area, and the staging of wide military operations against the Omani people and popular armed revolution lead by the People's Front for the Liberation of Oman for the expulsion of the Iranian invaders and the establishment of an independent and free Oman. The Iranian forces also undertake antagonistic military actions on the boundaries of our country. All these actions are not aimed against the peoples of Oman and Democratic Yemen alone but also the peoples of the whole region and the Arab countries on the whole and is as well considered a serious threat to world peace.

As the struggles of the Arab peoples and the entire world culminate in great successes concerning the isolation of racist

Zionism in Israel and withholding the Arab peoples' struggle for the liberation of their occupied territories and the increasing solidarity with the Palestinian people and its armed revolution, meanwhile we must point out clearly the serious dangers which await the peoples of the region and which threatens the Arab entity of the Arab Gulf and their national rights through various forms mainly the call for the establishment of a suspicious security system for the Gulf peoples with the objective of tightly binding the region to the network of world imperialism and strangling all aspirations for independence in these countries.

The need is eminent for reinforcing the acts of assistance and support for national democratic struggle in Lebanon against the fascist Al-Kataeb Party and its allies and associates with its dirty crimes against the rights of the Lebanese people and its national movement and the Palestinian movement. We are also faced with the task of preserving the sovereignty and national independence of Lebanon and the integrity of its territories, as well as the task of welding our struggle and the struggle of the Palestinian people against the treacherous assaults of the Zionist racism in Israel. Equally, we must expand the circle of assistance for the struggle of the Palestinian people and its armed struggle under the leadership of the PLO for the reclamation of its legitimate national rights, the right of self-determination on its own land and the isolation of Israel in a manner that may comprise the various international and local circles and institutions.

Dear comrades and friends,

Recent developments in the African Continent impose new vital tasks which must be challenged in a comprehensive way.

The peoples of the African Continent have achieved much on the route of completing the liberation of our countries from colonialist domination and imperialist exploitation which in our present times has acquired such status which demands

the serious intensification of the struggle for the destruction of the remnants of the colonialist forces and the forces of fascist and racist discrimination. Supreme among these tasks is the intensification of support and assistance to the newly independent and the enhancement of the various forms of this support and assistance in a manner that may actually strengthen the positions of these countries in the process of their reconstruction, their national independence and sovereignty over their own territories, and may also raise the living standards of its peoples.

The people of the People's Republic of Angola and its political vanguard, the people's movement, is among those peoples who need utmost and effective solidarity with their struggle against the local agent forces and the fierce aggressions and the wild interventions on behalf of racist and fascist regimes in the vicinity of this country and foremost among them the South African regime assisted and directly orientated by U.S. imperialism. We are asked to stand firmly and strongly, beside the People's Republic of Angola, until complete victory is attained.

Dear friends and comrades,

Our people in Democratic Yemen under the leadership of the Unified Political Organisation — the National Front, stands with firm belief on the side of the struggle of all the peoples in the world for the sake of democracy and liberation, peace and socialism.

We assert, once more, dear friends and comrades, our support for the struggle of the Latin America peoples against fascism and dictatorship. We express anew our profound and complete solidarity with the great Chilean people in its struggle against the military fascist dictatorship.

All the forces of humanity in the world are invited even more to strengthen their solidarity and cohesion to the great Chilean people and other peoples of Latin America which are fighting today for a free and honourable life. We are confident that the future will bring victory to the struggling peo-

ples and all the progressive and peace forces. The day will come when the strongholds of liberation and progress in Latin America will multiply. Besides heroic Cuba, we will certainly have several other Cubas, thanks to the peoples' struggle and the strong solidarity among them.

Dear friends and comrades,

This third meeting of the AAPSO Presidium is a highly important and significant international event. All the forces of humanity and progress in the world are watching us today. We have the honour to represent our militant peoples and we meet today to exchange opinion and to discuss the situation and to unify our work for the welfare of our peoples and their aspirations. We are faced by great and noble responsibilities which we honourably and honestly accept in favour of our peoples' food, ambitions and hopes for a future to be sheltered by freedom, progress and peace.

Once more, dear friends and comrades, we welcome you in our country, I should say your country ... in the interest of our common cause and objective ... in the interest of consolidating the solidarity among the people's forces in favour of the peoples welfare.



Delegates greet Mr. Abdel Fattah Ismail, after his opening address

**REPORT OF THE
AAPSO PERMANENT SECRETARIAT
TO THE
AAPSO THIRD PRESIDIUUM
presented by
Mr. YOUSSEF EL SEBAI
Chairman of the Presidium
and AAPSO Secretary General**

Dear Friends,

Please permit me at the beginning of my report to address warm greetings to the delegations and guests of the Third Meeting of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organisation Presidium.

I have full confidence that this meeting will further consolidate the Afro-Asian solidarity movement and strengthen solidarity ties among all the battalions of the movement in their struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism and Zionism. I am confident that it will effectively contribute to rallying all the progressive forces in their struggle for national independence, economic and social progress and development for the welfare of peoples and for the establishment of lasting and durable peace.

Please permit me to express thanks and gratitude to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, its unified political organisation — the National Front, its revolutionary Leaders, Comrade Abdel Fattah Ismail, Secretary General of the National Front, Comrade Salem Robei, Chairman of the Supreme Council, Comrade Ali Nasser Mohamed, Prime Minister, members of the Peace and Solidarity Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and all the sons of the

Republic for the warm welcome and hospitality and for all the material assistance offered to us in order to realise the best conditions for the success of our work.

It is a matter of great significance that the Third Meeting of the Presidium is being held in Aden, capital of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen which adopts a vanguard revolutionary path and which plays an important progressive role either in the field of Arab struggle or the battle of world progressive forces.

The Afro-Asian People's movement has scored important historic victories in the period between the previous session of the Presidium and this one. These victories deepen the drastic changes of the balance of world forces in favour of the forces of peace and progress. They also consolidate our determination to continue our just struggle for the liquidation of the last remnants of imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, oppression and racism.

If these victories offer more favourable conditions to realise gains for the national liberation movement, we have to be cautious because imperialism has not given up. It is desperately trying to defend its last castles and to infiltrate through its old centres of influence. That is why imperialism is resorting to more treacherous methods. Therefore, we have to remember all the lessons of our struggle and to realise clearly and deeply that our first weapon in all our battles is the solid unity of all the anti-imperialist forces on the national, Afro-Asian and world scales and the close alliance among the national liberation movement, the socialist community and all the progressive forces of all the world.

In this situation, the causes of economic and social development acquire important significance. Sound political independence should be built on a solid base of economic independence and wide-scale social action for the realisation of the interests of the masses in the newly liberated countries which are the true mainstays of independence.

This puts forward new tasks which should be discussed and calls for understanding the necessary lessons for our future actions.

SOLIDARITY WITH THE SOUTH ARAB PENINSULA AND THE GULF

The meeting of AAPSO Presidium is held in an important period of the struggle of the progressive and democratic forces of Africa, Asia and the whole world. This period is characterized by the liquidation of most of the colonies and the establishment of progressive regimes in many areas of the world. Imperialists, therefore, are resorting to more treacherous methods to confront the national tide.

This reflects on the area of the Arab Gulf to which world imperialism is paying great attention for its oil resources and strategic importance. Thus plots have been worked out against the peoples of the area and especially the people of Oman.

The increasing strength of the armed revolution led by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman, the escalation of its struggle through recent years and the liberation of vast areas in Dhofar led colonialist powers to resort to direct military occupation in the Islands of Tomb, Abu Mousa and Om el Ghanam on the part of Iran.

Events have developed lately in Oman which has come to represent a special importance in the Arab area. These events reached the degree of launching campaigns of genocide on the part of the invasion forces against armed revolution in Oman and the Omani people. Attacks have been also repeated on the part of the British and Iranian Forces. These methods are resorted to in order to intimidate the Omani people, to suffocate any revolutionary movement and to aim a blow against the whole national movement.

But national and democratic forces are relentlessly working for the foiling of all these plans and the confrontation of

foreign intervention. These forces are doubling their activity to support the national democratic revolution in Oman, to release all the political prisoners, to eliminate all the forms of persecution, to stop sending mercenaries, to liquidate foreign troops and to foil the imperialist attempts to link the area with the wheel of aggressive imperialist alliances.

The People's Democratic Republic of Yemen constitutes, no doubt, a castle of progress and democracy in the area of the Arab Gulf. The victory of national democratic revolution in Democratic Yemen has been a great gain for all the progressive forces of the world as one of the anti-imperialist world forces and for its strategic location which plays an important role in supporting national and democratic movements in the area.

That is why imperialists and their lackeys are sparing no effort for the weakening and liquidation of the progressive regime in Democratic Yemen and they are treacherously trying to push Democratic Yemen to an armed confrontation. This aims at impeding the democratic transformations which aim at the building of a new developed society and the liberation movements in the Gulf.

Confronted with this dangerous situation, it is necessary to state that the responsibility of confronting it is not only the duty of Omani revolution under the leadership of the People's Front for the Liberation of Oman, the national Liberation movement or the progressive regime of Democratic Yemen, but it also needs the solid confrontation of all the Arab national liberation movements, progressive Arab regimes and all the forces of liberation and democracy in Africa, Asia and the whole world.

AAPSO fully supports the national liberation movement in the area and calls upon all the liberation and democratic anti-imperialist forces to support the struggle waged by the People's Front for the Liberation of Oman and the forces of liberation in the Arab Peninsula and the Gulf.

AAPSO denounces all the forms of foreign intervention in the area and, especially, the military manoeuvres and the attempts of linking the area with the colonialist alliances.

AAPSO condemns all the machinations against Democratic Yemen and calls for offering all forms of support to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. It also calls upon all the progressive forces to back Democratic Yemen in defending her land.

AAPSO supports the struggle of the people of Bahrain and its national movement for the completion of national democratic independence, the elimination of the non-democratic laws and the release of all the political prisoners.

ARAB LIBERATION MOVEMENT AND THE MIDDLE EAST ISSUE

The meeting of our 12th Council held in Moscow a few months ago, was characterized by its clear and accurate view of the events; its decisions had a positive and effective impact on the direction of the Permanent Secretariat activities as regards the rapid and successive events, particularly in the Middle East area with its special importance in terms of strategic position, vast resources and oil reserves.

The situation in the area is still serious and explosive constantly threatening world peace and security. This is the result of the fact that Israel, supported by American imperialist forces, is playing for time in a bid to strengthen its army and rearm it with the most sophisticated American weaponry in preparation for the next war for which the Israeli leadership is planning, that leadership which only follows a policy of aggression and expansion, and which failed to absorb the results of the victorious October 1973 war efficiently and courageously waged by the armies of Egypt, Syria, the Palestinian Revolution as well as a number of other Arab armies, thus shattering the myth of Israeli racial superiority and opening the way for the full liberation of the usurped Arab territories and restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

Furthermore, Israel, as was always its custom, is desperately trying to undermine the unity of the Arab ranks which is their essential mainstay in face of the colonial Israeli aggression. The AAPSO, which joins hands with the Arab masses for the maintenance of this unity, is exerting all efforts for the renewal of effective solidarity, which led to the October victory, between Syria, Egypt and the Palestinian Resistance, the confrontation forces supported by all Arab

peoples; that solidarity which yielded outstanding results during the October 1973 War and which could continue for the full liberation of the land, this primary strategic objective of the Arab struggle in the current stage.

In this aggressive attitude, Israel enjoys full support of U.S. imperialism which provides it with money, advanced weapons and political support without limits, while at the same time attempting to pressure and threaten these peoples supporting the Arab right. It is constantly threatening as well to occupy oil sources in the oil-producing Arab countries while trying its best to bring the area back to the state of no-war - no-peace, pushing its agents to fabricate incidents in the Arab region to bleed the energies of the Palestinian Revolution and preoccupy the Arab nation so as to divert it from its essential task, that of confronting the Israeli enemy and liberating the occupied Arab territories.

Israel is, in fact, continuing its aggression against the peoples of the Arab nation, for it is still procrastinating over withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and increasingly intransigent in its rejection of the Palestinian People's rights. Its boycott of the recent Security Council debate on the Palestinian issue, is evidence enough on its intransigence, furthermore, it is still going on with the construction of new settlements on the Sinai, the Golan, the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. It is escalating its terrorist oppressive acts on all the occupied territories, sending to prisons thousands of Palestinians, clergymen and judicials, women, old men and children, savagely attacking the camps of the Palestinian refugees accounting for hundreds of innocent victims, that which was strongly condemned by world public.

Meanwhile, Israel and U.S. imperialist circles started planning the tragic incidents in Lebanon immediately after the September 1971 incidents in Jordan. They trained their agents from among the isolationist and reactionary groups, arming them with the latest weapons, and provided them with money and mercenaries in a bid to draw the Palestinian Revolution and the Lebanese progressive national forces into

a sectarian war completely alien to the tolerance, harmony and chivalry for which the Arab nation has always been known.

As a result of this Zionist imperialist scheme, Lebanon sunk into a bloody war serving Israel in its expansionist aspirations as well as in containing the Palestinian Revolution and diverting it from its fixed objective of fighting the occupier.

The AAPSO, which warned from the start against the plot against Lebanon, as well as exposed those behind these events, and condemned the restraint and active role exercised by the Palestinian Revolution to stop the deterioration of the situation, believes now in the urgency of an intensive Arab effort to be exerted to halt bloodshed before it is too late, with more innocent lives lost and the area dragged to an unknown dark fate. Furthermore, all the Arab governments and peoples are called upon, now more than ever, to defend the Palestinian Revolution and enable it to act freely in fighting the Zionist enemy, from all Arab territories. They are also required to provide material aid to the Lebanese government and the Palestinian Revolution to secure food, medical care and shelter for the tens of thousands who are suffering great damages.

While the Zionist imperialist drive intensified against the Arab nation, the Arab liberation movement, obviously, realised significant successes and great victories over its enemies in various spheres.

World public opinion sectors condemning the aggressive Israeli-U.S. policy in the Middle East, grew, while at the same time, solidarity with, and understanding of the Palestinian cause increased.

The P.L.O. has won further recognition and support. This was most manifest in the big number of the General Assembly resolutions on the Palestinian issue. Chief among them is the resolution condemning Zionism as a type of racism. Thus the condemnation of Zionism moved on to international bodies.

Its fascist ideology was unmasked and its aggressive methods were denounced. Consequently, the very bases on which Israel was established collapsed.

AAPSO which has welcomed the recent resolutions of the U.N. General Assembly and specialized agencies, particularly welcomes the resolution condemning Zionism. Since its establishment AAPSO has realised the reality of Zionism and expounded its danger at all meetings and in all fields. It gives it pleasure to hail the role played by the Afro-Asian countries in wrenching a resolution condemning this racist movement which has inflicted much pain and catastrophies on the peoples of Africa and Asia because of its association with imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism and the racist and reactionary regimes. The Permanent Secretariat believes it is high time for holding a special symposium on Zionism in an African state in accordance with the resolutions of the 12th Session of AAPSO Council.

Our Organisation has attached special importance to the Security Council debate on the Palestinian issue on the 12th of the current month. It considers it a good chance for setting right the old conditions under which the Palestinian people have lived over a quarter of a century particularly, as the P.L.O. is participating in this debate. This will promote its international legality as the representative of this militant people at the international level. This meeting is really a chance for testing good intentions towards reaching just and durable peace in the Middle East. It is also a good prelude to the reconvoation of the Geneva Conference wherein the PLO will be invited to attend on equal footing with all parties. AAPSO does not deny that many circles are apprehensive lest the U.S. should veto any resolutions as it did at the Security Council on many occasions in the past.

Our Organisation also hails the valiant and mounting struggle of the Palestinian people inside the occupied land. In more than eight years it has succeeded in foiling all attempts by Israeli authorities to create a mercenary Arab leadership that joins the march of occupation, contrary to the desires

and hopes of the Palestinian people who have rallied round the P.L.O. and mounted their political and military struggle against the enemy's forces inside the occupied territories.

AAPSC, — which believes that a just and durable peace in the Middle East cannot be attained unless through Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and insurance of the Palestinian peoples national rights, particularly the right to self-determination on their own land and the right to establish a national independent state on any liberated land — makes a point of stressing that disengagement on the battlefronts cannot be an acceptable substitute for convening the Geneva Conference and that mandate of the U.N. Emergency Forces cannot be exploited in freezing the situation and returning to the state of no-peace-no-war.

AAPSO believes it is its duty to underline the gravity of the situation in the Middle East and to call for utmost vigilance and caution. It stresses the necessity of the participation of the Arab masses and of furnishing them with an opportunity to organize and arm themselves. It calls for insuring a sound democratic life for the masses under the sovereignty of the law and for endeavouring to secure the release of all who are imprisoned or suspended for political reasons. Thus the Arab nation may be able to confront its main enemy embodied in imperialism, colonialism and Zionism and to tighten its grip on its natural resources and mineral wealth by further nationalization. In this way, the resources and wealth which have been plundered by colonialism and imperialist and mercenary forces can be put in the service of the broadest sectors of the deprived masses. In this respect, the Permanent Secretariat hails Iraq's nationalization of the remaining share of Al Bassra Oil Company, thus enabling the Iraqi people to have full control of its resources.

We also stress the importance of allocating a suitable portion of the revenues of these natural resources of wealth, particularly oil, to the consolidation of the confrontation states and the Palestinian revolution so that they may shoulder the responsibility of repelling the Zionist enemy in defence of the whole Arab nation.

In this connection we stress the necessity of the fusion of the Arab liberation movement and the socialist countries community, foremost among it, the Soviet Union which is the strategic ally of the Arab peoples' struggle. We also record our satisfaction at the failure of all imperialist attempts aimed at undermining this alliance.

AAPSO congratulates the Sahara's people on the evacuation of the Spanish troops from their land and the end of Spanish colonialism. It calls on the parties concerned to solve the problem of the Sahara's people by peaceful means that insure the rights of the Sahara's people, consolidate anti-colonialist and anti-imperialist forces in the region and safeguard the supreme Arab interest.

The Secretariat will contact the member committees and the concerned sides for further consultation in a bid to adopt a unified stand that guarantees the unity of the anti-imperialist and anti-colonialist forces. Proceeding from this, the Permanent Secretariat has invited a POLISARIO delegation which expounded its views on the issue.

The Permanent Secretariat supports the struggle of the Moroccan progressive and democratic forces for the liberation of all the territories still under Spanish colonialism, namely, Ceuta, Melilla and Jaafarite Islands. The Secretariat expresses solidarity with these forces in their efforts for the release of all political detainees, the respect of public fundamental freedoms, the establishment of democratic institutions and the construction of a democratic liberated Morocco. The Permanent Secretariat denounces the assassination of the progressive Moroccan leader Omar Ben Jaloun as an abject act against the progressive movement in Morocco as well as in Africa and Asia. Meanwhile, the Secretariat cautions against the escalation of the terrorist tide and calls for the adoption of the required attitudes to stop it and for the undertaking of investigations capable of revealing the truth.

C Y P R U S

The Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organisation has always adopted a firm stand in support of the Cypriot people in confronting the perfidious imperialist conspiracy against Cyprus for some time. AAPSO was among the first international organisations to hold a meeting in solidarity with Cyprus. When President Makarios was forced to leave the country as a result of the imperialist conspiracies, the organisation condemned the reactionary coup against the legitimate government of Cyprus and called for the immediate withdrawal of foreign troops from the island. It sent many petitions and cables to the U.N. Secretary General and the Security Council calling for prompt action to restore peace to Cyprus.

The convocation of AAPSO Second Presidium in Nicosia itself was a clear-cut expression of this stand and a call on all progressive and anti-imperialist forces in Africa, Asia and the entire world to standfast by the side of the Cypriot people in their struggle for a unified, independent, disarmed, non-aligned, sovereign Cyprus under the legitimate government of President Archbishop Makarios.

The Presidium said at its meeting in Cyprus "the problem of Cyprus is not a dispute between two communities as the imperialist forces say, but it is a question of national liberation : it is an indivisible part of the general struggle against imperialism. We are confident that a joint anti-occupation and anti-imperialist front will be set up to struggle for a free independent Cyprus for all Cypriots regardless of their origin or religion. We fully support the Cypriot people's struggle for liquidating the military bases and setting radar and warning equipment".

The Presidium noted with concern that although the U.N. resolutions call for the speedy withdrawal of all foreign forces

and for the return of refugees, actually some acts and behaviour are totally incompatible with the U.N. resolutions in word and spirit. The Turkish troops occupy 40% of the land of Cyprus and refugees are still prevented from returning to their homes.

AAPSO also participated in the International Conference on Cyprus held in London (May 10, 1975) and in the International Solidarity Week with Cyprus (July 15 - 22, 1975). It also took part in the Cypriot Women March.

AAPSO affirms, as it has already stressed at the 12th Session of AAPSO Council in Moscow, its full solidarity with the people and government of Cyprus under Archbishop Makarios. It calls on all countries to extend unconditioned support for the struggle of the Cypriot people for an independent, sovereign, unitary, non-aligned regionally integrated disarmed Cyprus.

A F R I C A

The period under review between the previous and present Presidium Meetings of AAPSO covering the months of May 1975 to the current Meeting marks an important milestone or turning point in the history of the continent. Never before has such a short period been packed with so many victories of a far reaching nature character that must influence the nature and future outcome of the struggles presently waged against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism and internal reaction.

It would be wrong for the continent to presume that these victories have taken place in isolation without taking into consideration the tremendous contribution of the world progressive forces, first and foremost the socialist community. World imperialism has been weakened through the tremendous beatings internationally and also by its insoluble inherent internal contradictions that are becoming sharper and sharper. The historic victories scored by the peoples of Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos, the international solidarity movement that became so visible in the heroic Vietnamese struggle are a very important factor in the struggle against imperialism.

The history - making victory scored by the people of Mozambique under the steed in battle Frelimo, marked an important break through in the struggle for national liberation in the continent particularly its southern point. The lightning like liberation of HUE and DANANG, it caught the reactionary forces still dreaming of making Mozambique safe for minority rule. The Cabora Bassa Project and Kissinger Doctrine on Southern Africa as contained in Memo 39 are a clear indication. The far-reaching significance of this victory lies in the fact that it threw into utter disarray the strategy of buffer states, broke the unholy alliance by destroying one of its limbs — Portuguese colonialism — and opened up new

possibilities for the final victory of the struggle against the remnants of colonialism in the region and continent. It injected new life and new realisations in the struggle against colonialism showing that the struggle against colonialism is part and parcel of struggle against neo-colonialism.

AAPSO in recognition of the heroism of the Peoples of Mozambique, Angola, Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde and Sao Tome and Principe and of the strategic importance of Mozambique as an example and a further inspiration to the peoples of the region and also appreciating the efforts and contribution of the international solidarity movement decided with the Agreement of FRELIMO and the Revolutionary Government with PAIGO of Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde Island and MLSTP of Sao-Tome and Principe and Angola to hold an International Solidarity Conference with the peoples of former Portuguese colonies in Lourenço Marques in September 27 and 28th, 1975.

The Conference which was opened by the President of the People's Republic of Mozambique and of Frelimo Comrade Samora Machel was closed by the Vice President of the Party, Comrade Marcelino Dos Santos. It was attended by many delegations from many countries of Africa, Asia, Latin America, Western Europe and of the Socialist countries.

The Conference adopted important documents, the Lourenço Marques Declaration, the Appeal on Angola, Resolution on Southern Africa and Resolution on the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace against imperialist military bases in the region.

The Conference was a mighty mobilisation effort of AAPSO to rally world public opinion particularly of the Afro-Asian World to active support politically, materially and otherwise the struggle and victories of the peoples of the former Portuguese colonies, and it pointed the way to solidarity with the Angolan People under MPLA.

This victory was immediately followed by the victory of the PAICG in the liberation of Cape Verde thus opening firm

basis for eventual unity with mainland Guinea Bissau. This was a culmination of gallant struggle.

The independence of Sao-Tome and Principe under the leadership of MLTSP has contributed in the process of final liquidation of Portuguese colonialism.

Southern Africa has become a major focal point in the struggle in Africa

The multi-fold raging struggle for liberation of Zimbabwe is being intensified. Ever since the unity achieved by the Zimbabwe Liberation Movements in the African National Council (ANC) and the historic mammoth Congress of the Party last September inside the country, the ANC has further consolidated itself effectively inside and outside Zimbabwe.

The settler minority regime continues to be as fascist with thousands upon thousands of freedom-fighters huddled in the numerous concentration camps and overcrowded prisons; captured guerilla fighters are sentenced in the settler courts contrary to the **Geneva Convention on Prisoners of War** and worse still, many patriots continue to be secretly executed and hanged by the Salisbury blood suckers. We need mention that while the Smith regime is currently engaged in the constitutional negotiations with the African people of Zimbabwe under their Leader, President Joshua Nkomo, it is a known secret that the regime is hectically recruiting many mercenaries from the United States, West Germany, Britain and other NATO countries in a desperate attempt to beef up its army. AAPSO wants to emphasize that the history of mercenaries in Africa calls upon us all to be vigilant against this imperialist scheme.

The People of Zimbabwe, far from being cowed down by the ruthless regime, continue to intensify their struggle. AAPSO supports their principled stand in the current constitutional negotiations that majority rule is non-negotiable and that what can be negotiated are the mechanics of the transfer of power from the minority to the majority. AAPSO supports

the decision of people of Zimbabwe that, should the minority Smith regime not heed to the demand for immediate majority rule, the armed revolutionary struggle will be intensified. AAPSO is convinced that like in Vietnam, negotiations and armed struggle are not contradictory.

AAPSO, as decided in the Moscow Council Session, in its Programme of Action for 1976, remains ready to galvanize more international support and material assistance for the struggling people of Zimbabwe by convening an "International Conference in Support of the Struggle of the People of Zimbabwe" depending on when conditions will be deemed suitable by the African National Council (ANC of Zimbabwe).

AAPSO strongly condemns the racist regime of South Africa for its continued illegal occupation of Namibia and its increased methods of repression against the Namibian people.

AAPSO denounces the political manipulations by the Vorster regime by imposing the evil policy of Bantustans such as the creation of the so-called Multiracial Council and the staging of bogus elections similar to the recent one which was held in the Northern Region of Namibia last year, aimed at partitioning the country on an ethnic basis, with the view of annexing 75 per cent of the territory to the minority white dominated South Africa against the popular political aspirations of the Namibian people to self-determination and National Independence.

South Africa must recognise and state publicly the right of the Namibian people to independence and national sovereignty.

Namibian territorial integrity is absolute and inviolable. It is not open to discussion, in any quarter.

South Africa must accept the historical fact, otherwise universally acknowledged, that South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) of Namibia is the sole authentic representative of the Namibian people.

All political prisoners must be released, whether they are held in Namibia or in South Africa.

All Namibians, of whatever political organization, now in exile, must be able to return freely to their country, with no fear of arrest or any other form of victimization.

South Africa must commit herself to the withdrawal of all her troops, police and administration from Namibian territory.

The intervention or invasion of Angola by troops of the racist Pretoria regime once again demonstrated its alien and hostile nature to the African continent and its aspiration. This aggression is a reflection of its brutality and ruthlessness at home.

The regime has intensified its persecution of all those who are opposed to it. The net includes students, priests, trade unionists, writers, not to mention activities of the underground liberation movement led by ANC.

The regime is intensifying its fraudulent activities of fragmentation of the country under so-called Bantustan policy and has pledged to produce its first mini-state, which is to be the window shop for apartheid. These bantustans are meant to serve apartheid abroad whilst at home they maintain their role of being source of cheap labour and dumping ground for those wasted in the inhygienic mines. AAPSO calls for the total rejection and isolation of Bantustans which represent the balkanisation of the country. Vorster has promised to produce the first so-called independent Bantustan on October 1976.

The so-called Southern African Detente of Vorster has been exposed in Angola as a dangerous trick by Vorster to dull Africa whilst intensifying its aggression in Angola and stepping-up its war of aggression and occupation in Namibia.

Thousands of political prisoners are languishing in the dark dungeons of the regime many of which have already been there for over 13 years. AAPSO calls upon the inter-

national community to intensifying efforts for their release. It is also necessary to defeat the efforts of the regime to break-out of isolation. It is necessary to launch a powerful campaign to intensify its isolation, to impose embargo on arms, oil and to increase economic and cultural boycott.

The proclamation of independence by the people of Comoro Islands and the formation of national Government was an important factor indicating that the initiative is now with the people of the continent. It also signalled to the imperialists and colonialists that gone are the days when the fixing of dates of decolonisation depended on them. AAPSO demands that France respect the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Comoro Islands, and that Mayotte is an inseparable part of the whole country.

The agreement reached on decolonisation of Seychelles and the formation of a national transitional Government is an important victory for the progressive forces that will culminate with the granting of independence not later than June 30th, 1976.

AAPSO continues to support the just struggle being waged by the people of the so-called French Somaliland (Djibouti) against French imperialism. In Northern Africa the struggle for national independence for the people of Canary Islands still languishing under the yoke of Spanish colonialism enjoys our full support. Spain still occupies large tracts of the continent and is seeking ways to continue the plunder and exploitation of the country. AAPSO stands on the side of the people of Reunion who are struggling and demanding self-determination and independence.

Today, Angola has become the central issue in the continent and in many ways in the world. World imperialism supported by local neo-colonialists and reactionaries desperately tried to first prevent the emergence of the People's Republic of Angola under the leadership of MPLA headed by Dr. Agostinho Neto. The continent has never witnessed such conspiracy. It became clear that the birth of the People's Republic

was not only a blow to imperialist designs about the future of this lovely country but more it is considered by this arch enemy of progress and peoples genuine interest as a mortal threat to its interest and existence, presence through existence in the region of neo-colonialist regimes, colonies and apartheid colonial regimes. The assumption to power of MPLA on 11th November was considered a dangerous reinforcement of revolutionary Mozambique on the Western coast of the continent further exposing the white minority regimes to the wrath of their colonial peoples they are so ruthlessly oppressing.

Angola has become a turning point in the history of the continent posing new and higher responsibilities to all the progressives, not only of the continent but to the entire world anti-imperialist forces.

A few weeks and days before the independence of Angola, world imperialism fervently tried to seek international support to impose an external solution to Angola which would have robbed the people of the country of the fruits of centuries of struggle and sacrifice not to mention the 15 years of grim armed struggle. When this conspiracy was unmasked and rejected by peoples of first Angola and MPLA and then by all world progressives, the forces of backwardness stepped up their attempts to militarily liquidate achievements of the Angolan people even before their fruition or legislation on the 11th November. They decided to prop-up their pro-imperialist so-called liberation movements FNLA and UNITA by the introduction of South African fascist troops, mercenaries, U.S. troops so-called veterans of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia, of fascist elements of the remnants of Caetano troops and its notorious PIDE agents and neighbouring neo-colonialist troops. The reactionaries dreamt of celebrating independence in Luanda.

Africa's arch enemies, Apartheid South Africa, U.S. imperialism openly using its notorious and defamed CIA, French and Federal Republic of Germany and other imperialists who sent their soldiers as part of the mercenary contingent, shouting cold-war slogans suddenly pretended to be champions of

"freedom in Angola". These reactionary forces have always supported fascist Portugal claim that Angola and all its former colonies were OVERSEAS PROVINCES OF THAT COUNTRY. Poor Portugal would have long been defeated if it was not — thanks to NATO and South African support. The Cabora Bassa project and now the Kunene project were meant to reinforce and perpetuate minority regime's rule. Organisations created and financed by CIA must be considered enemies not only of Angola but of all progressives. Even in the United States of America such organisations are shunned and rejected. Africa must never allow this. MPLA was formed by the cream of Angolan patriots.

AAPSO hails the support of the Socialist countries particularly of the Soviet Union and Cuba, of the African countries, particularly Guinea, Mozambique, Congo and Guinea Bissau to mention only a few, of the Arab and Asian countries. The stand of the Socialist countries behind the young People's Republic of Angola signified the indivisible unity of the Socialist and liberation forces. Socialist countries, particularly the Soviet Union, proved once again that when this unity is maintained, imperialist designs can and must be frustrated. The all-round support of the Socialist countries and other progressives **cannot and should not be equated** to intervention of imperialism and reaction. The former is to support and consolidate the gains of the African revolution safeguarding the genuine interest of the people whilst imperialist so-called help is meant to guarantee imperialist plunder and exploitation.

Angola marks a turning point in the history of the continent because once again it showed the way forward, that the seizure of power must be anti-imperialist and anti-neo-colonialist, anti-racist, apart from being anti-colonialist. Today when world imperialism pretends to champion the cause of decolonization, when it is creating its so-called liberation movements as demonstrated in Angola with the purpose of ensuring fertile ground for neo-colonialism, the progressives must not be deceived. They must strengthen the anti-neo-

colonialist content of their decolonisation, imperialism remains the arch enemy of all peoples.

AAPSO demands the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of all foreign imperialist, South African and neo-colonialist troops from Angola and an end to imperialist intrigues to subvert the Government of Angola — PRA under MPLA. We also appeal to all countries that have not as yet recognised the new Government to do so without delay. It is also necessary to render material support to the People's Republic of Angola in all fields to enable her to smoothen economic consolidation.

The birth of this new Republic, the 47th sovereign State, has been acclaimed by all true friends of the people of Angola, by all the world's progressives, who have always given every support to the people of Angola for the last fifteen years in the struggle for freedom.

The solidarity role of the progressive countries of Africa guaranteed victorious recognition of the People's Republic of Angola. This, together with the Socialist community, constituted a solid solidarity block.

We could hardly forget the militant progressive role of independent African states particularly, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Somalia, Congo, Mozambique, Algeria and Madagascar amongst many others who continue to set the pace in the struggle against neo-colonialism, imperialism and for social progress. The successful struggle of the people and government of Madagascar and her emergence under President Ratsiraka is a tremendous victory for all the progressive forces.

The victories and successes scored by the progressive, democratic and the popular forces in Lesotho in face of fascist repressions, atrocities, mass killings, are a living testimony of an indomitable will of the popular forces with BCP in the lead. The high-handed methods used by Jonathan's ruling puppet clique in a bid to stifle the revolutionary upsurge has inevitably and negatively exposed and alienated it from the popular masses.

The religious groups in Lesotho have openly joined the concerted ranks of the progressive, democracy and the patriotic forces in calling on Jonathan to step down from the perch of power and handover to the BCP as a democratically elected majority party in the interest of peace and stability in the country.

The second reason trial case of the BCP activists who were involved in January 1974 uprising ended in last August, 1975 with 18 people committed to a total of 71-year jail sentences thus bringing to 39 people still languishing in prison in Lesotho. And the recent arrests of the BCP activists for their political activities serve as a clear indication that the struggle is continuing.

The growing African and Arab cooperation must be solidified on the basis of common interest and should be based on anti-imperialist and anti-neo-colonialist basis.

Africa's role in the non-aligned movement, its close cooperation with the socialist community, the natural ally of the progressive forces in the capitalist world, answer to the call of the hour and are in the deep interest of her peoples.

A S I A

Since we reported to the 12th Council Session held in Moscow three months ago, the peoples in large parts of Asia have taken a definite turn from long and protracted liberation struggles to the tasks of economic development and nation building. This is particularly true in the Indo-Chinese Peninsula. The heroic people of Vietnam are now busy with the historical responsibility of unifying their motherland split for long years by the imperialists. Huge tasks of rebuilding and developing the country for the benefit of the Vietnamese people lie before them and they need the helping hand of all our member Organisations and friendly nations. Internationally the people of Vietnam are faced with the just and rightful task of seeking entry into the U.N. AAPSO has been outraged by the veto exercised by USA and has strongly denounced the action of USA. We firmly demand the entry of Vietnam to the UN. AAPSO is at present engaged with the setting up of a solidarity school of Vietnamese children as a memorial and symbolic gesture towards the people of Vietnam in their formidable task of development and nation building.

Similarly, we hail the achievements of the people of Cambodia. We are happy to associate ourselves with their national aspirations for democratic Constitution, economic development and security. We are planning a goodwill tour of Cambodia this year which will indicate to us the brotherly steps we should take in developing and strengthening the bonds of solidarity with the people of Cambodia.

Further we are happy that the people of Laos have successfully changed from monarchy to the People's Republic of Laos. Thus they are peacefully strengthening ties of administration and development according to the peoples desires. These changes clearly indicate the trends towards democracy

and freedom. The change from monarchy to a People's Democratic Republic has been welcomed by all. We have noted that such far reaching democratic upsurge has affected the neighbouring countries and the whole regions. Thailand has decided to ask the US troops to withdraw from the country and close the US military bases. The Philippines is conducting talks on taking administrative control of US owned Subic Bay naval base and Clark airfield. These diminishing powers of US imperialism are due to the heroic victories of Indochinese peoples. Thanks again to the total victory of the people of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia that the hated imperialist military pact called SEATO had to be buried. The imperialists were left with no other choice but to announce its funeral.

While these changes augur well for Asian people march towards peace and development, there are areas where imperialists are seeking new ways to build a new or strengthen existing bases. The extension of US military bases in the Indian Ocean, Arab Gulf and the Pacific are symptoms of new imperialist strategy as spelt out by US President Ford recently after his Asian tour. Thus the Pacific doctrine is the latest declaration only to reassure puppets and reactionary forces in this part of the world that US military presence would continue to encourage them against progressive and independent governments.

The increased US military aid to South Korea's Pak Chung Hee regime, its nuclear threat to People's Democratic Republic of Korea, the cruel murder of President Mujibur Rahman of Bangladesh, convert CIA activities to destabilise non-aligned anti-imperialist governments of the region and the deliberate maligning of India's progressive policy are all pointers to the same direction.

US President Ford has stressed the importance of Japan's role in his new Pacific doctrine and the Japanese government is a willing partner of the military alliance between US, Japan and South Korea. US military authorities, including the Defence Secretary, are on record to state that they would not hesitate using nuclear weapons against DPRK and that the first nuclear arms attack is within US strategy.

In this context the AAPSO fully supports Japanese people's struggle against militarisation, military bases like Okinawa, and nuclear weapons. Peace-loving forces all over the world are demanding complete banning and prohibition of nuclear weapons. Liquidation of military pacts and bases is essential for peaceful development and the peoples of Asia are in search of a collective approach to security.

There are innumerable instances of imperialist interference and subversion in Asian political scene. It was not accidental that the declaration of independence by the people of Timor was obstructed and that Indonesia committed aggression on the newly independent people of Timor led by FRETILIN, just when Ford and Kissinger were leaving Djakarta. AAPSO had supported the peoples' struggle for liberation of Timor under FRETILIN and will continue to support it. AAPSO has condemned Indonesian interference and aggression in Timor as well as her inhuman treatment to its own political prisoners languishing in Indonesian jails for the last ten years.

AAPSO has issued a statement denouncing the Ford Pacific doctrine which is a pretext to justify US military presence in Asian and the Pacific region.

The United States can no longer get rid of the obligation that the United States must dissolve its military command using UN flag in South Korea and should withdraw its aggressive forces as a result of the passing of a just resolution on the Korean problem at the 30th U.N. General Assembly.

Nevertheless, the United States and South Korea authorities continue to do despicable manoeuvres in an attempt to perpetuate the division of the nation, clamouring about the use of nuclear weapons in Korea, and reinforcing their armed forces far from withdrawing their aggressive army despite the unanimous demand and desire of Korean people and the world progressive people for the maintenance of the peace in Korea and for the realisation of their national reunification.

A change of the armistice into a durable peace in Korea and the creation of a favourable condition for accelerating the

Korean independent peaceful reunification is a just measure which can remove the tension and guarantee a durable peace in Korea and the realisation of the Korean reunification without interference of any outside forces by Korean people themselves and by peaceful means. The proposal put forward by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is quite reasonable that on condition the U.S. troops are withdrawn from South Korea, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is ready to conclude a peace agreement with the United States at any time.

The tragic chain of events which began with the brutal assassination of Founder President of newly liberated Bangladesh was an eye-opener and shock treatment even to those who wanted proof as to how imperialist agencies function... The way the most popular leadership in Bangladesh pursuing a path of non-alignment, anti-imperialism, socialism and secularism was physically liquidated, left no doubt as to where the hidden hand belongs to. It only proved how cunningly present day fascists and neo-colonialists operate in the Third World.

As each day brings more and more exposure of the CIA type imperialist agencies functioning throughout the globe, specially in the Third World, are realising the need to be more and more vigilant against the unholy alliance of local reaction with external forces. The reactionaries are guided and financed by world imperialists and neo-colonialists to perpetuate their exploitation. They operate through corporations or other cover organisations. They have thousand and one ways to instigate local reactionary groups to adopt fascist methods including physical murders.

It was this realisation in India that the Prime Minister Indira Gandhi had to declare national emergency in June last. The events in Bangladesh have all the more confirmed the correctness of all the recent measures taken by Indian government. We congratulate the Prime Minister and the people of India for their bold stand against fascist offensive and in curbing the reactionary forces. It is the timely action and determined unity of patriotic sections which frustrated the

neo-colonialist plot of destabilisation attempt in India. As the recent International Conference Against Fascism held in India last month was a historical event, it was a mighty demonstration of the unity of all anti-imperialist forces notably the Indian National Congress and the Communist Party of India. It gave a timely warning that 'fascism triumphed only in these countries where democratic forces were hesitant in the struggle against fascist threat and where it was not opposed by a united front of popular forces'.

As the AAPSO message to Patna Congress our delegation pointed out that the struggle against neo-colonialism and neo-fascism in the seventies is a worldwide struggle of which the patriotic masses of India are an integral part. In this battle the Indian people are not alone. They are fighting for a common cause. Today the battlelines against the common enemy transcend continents, and oceans. But as the progressive humanity rose against Hitler Nazism and Fascism of the thirties and defeated it by mid forties, there is no doubt the world progressive forces will once again succeed to deal crushing blows to the neo-colonialists and neo-fascists who are raising their ugly heads in different regions of the world.

Countries, like India and Sri Lanka, who pursue an independent foreign policy, a policy of socio-economic transformation, of non-alignment opposition to all imperialist manifestations are maligned and slandered by western mass media. Also because these non-aligned countries oppose vehemently the US imperialist bases in Indian Ocean as threat to the peace and security of all littoral and hinterland states, the imperialists leave no stone unturned to instigate reactionary groups for sabotage and subversion. Both Asia and Africa, there is growing resentment against the imperialist military base at Diego Garcia.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF THE AFRO-ASIAN COUNTRIES

Recent events that took place in the short period following AAPSO's Council Session in Moscow established the validity of conclusions reached by the meeting which affirmed that the accomplishment of the tasks of socio-economic development is of paramount importance to the liberation struggle of the independent states in Asia and Africa.

The resolutions of the Council concerning the social and economic problems, pointed out that the solution of these problems is closely linked with the undertaking of drastic and progressive socio-political changes and with these states accomplishment of their economic independence. In fact, the struggle for economic independence has become the principal component of the current juncture undergone by the national liberation movement.

Having achieved political independence, the spearhead of the struggle of the developing anti-imperialist countries is directed to the undermining of the world labour distribution system based on subordination and the unequal trade system imposed upon them by the monopolist capitalism.

Beyond doubt, world detente — that has been realised mainly by virtue of the efforts exerted by the USSR and the other Socialist countries — creates favourable conditions for the solution of the most important problems in the field of world economic relations including the liquidation of the abject imperialist influence in the developing countries, the struggle against the multiforms of neo-colonialism and the alleviation of the crises impact of the world capitalist system on the developing countries.

The developing countries are backed in their struggle for the re-establishment of the economic relations system by the

increasing contributions of the Socialist countries. Hence, reinforcement of the alliance between the national liberation movement and the Socialist community has become one of the most important factors of the struggle for the establishment of the New Economic Order. We can say that this alliance that had been a principal prerequisite for undermining the imperialist system acquires growing importance at the juncture of the liberated countries' struggle for the realisation of their economic independence.

Economic and technical cooperation between the member states of the Council of Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) and developing countries became an important and ever active factor of the international life. The CMEA is currently rendering economic, scientific and technical assistance to 64 developing countries, which aid helps the young states strengthen their national economy, and build up and develop their own industry.

Cooperation between the Third World countries and the Socialist community is not only economic, but also has its important social aspects. It reduces the number of unemployed, enlarges the working class, strengthens the State sector as well as contributes to the transformation of the whole structure of their economy.

Aware of the cardinal importance of cooperation between the Afro-Asian countries and the Socialist countries, AAPSO held a joint meeting at the Permanent Secretariat and the Solidarity Committees in the European Socialist countries, in Berlin on November 13-16, 1975. The meeting decided upon the date, venue and character of international seminars to be held in the Socialist countries on the problems concerning the role of the working class in the developing countries in the struggle against imperialism for freedom and progress as well as the role of the State sector in the cooperative movement in the young countries. At the same time, the meeting discussed the necessary steps for the establishment of the Research Centre.

The developing countries — with the assistance of the Socialist States — have been able to confront the imperialist forces for the establishment of the New Economic Order. The confrontation is characterized by the fact that the developing countries' struggle is not confined to the production of limited types of raw materials but to the entire production field. In the U.N. General Assembly's special sessions, the fifth and sixth, devoted to the issues of natural resources and economic development in the Third World, these countries seriously raised for the first time the importance of having political insight into the pressing economic issues concerning the mutual relations between the developed and the developing countries struggling for the establishment of their entire sovereignty over their natural wealth and economies under the present circumstances, the developing countries are increasingly adopting joint stands in the face of the imperialist policy of the imperialist forces. We can generally describe the current period of confrontation as a period of transition from individual defence to collective assault aimed at realising the following objectives :

- Recognition of the right to nationalize foreign monopolies properties.
- The right to utilise the national natural resources and to fix fair prices for the exported materials.
- Establishment of cooperation on the basis of mutual interest in the field of world economic relations between the developed and the developing countries.

The Conference on International Economic Cooperation held in Paris last December, indicated that participants in the so-called 'North-South dialogue' are pursuing diametrically opposite aims.

The developing countries pressed for a whole-package debate on economic relations, not only concerning energy, but also other raw materials, economic development, and monetary and financial problems.

The capitalist countries were trying from the very outset, to confine the dialogue to energy problems, or more precisely, to the problem of oil prices. Thus the manoeuvres of the Western delegates to the Conference, only increased the North-South confrontation. The peoples of the Third World countries are firmly determined to seek a revision of their relations with the West on the basis of justice and equality.

And, the "North-South dialogue" is going on.

As a result of a series of economic and political reasons the oil producing countries — members in the OPEC — were at the vanguard of Third World Movement for their right to benefit independently of their natural resources. Thus, some of the oil-producing countries have nationalised the oil concessions,

In general, the important oil-producing countries in the Middle East and Africa control the pumping operations of the larger part of their oil in their territories. The member states in OPEC have been able to compel the imperialist monopolies to accept the new terms of oil exporting.

During the last two or three years, the monetary power of the oil exporting countries has immeasurably grown. Oil revenues that rapidly multiplied provide the first reasonable financial conditions for the accomplishment of genuine economic independence during a relatively short period of time.

The most progressive methods for the exploitation of the oil monetary reserves are manifest in these countries wherein the revolutionary democratic forces have summed power. In such a case, the oil revenues help sustain the economy on the basis of undertaking drastic political, economic and social changes.

Despite the opposition of imperialism, the member states in OPEC offer sizeable loans to the oil importing developing countries. These loans have become one of the important means of assisting the developing countries. Such measures on the part of the OPEC members, facilitate the political cohesion of the developing countries and create favourable con-

ditions for joint ventures on the part of the other raw material-exporting countries. All this is bound to facilitate the success of anti-imperialist activity.

The AAPSO Permanent Secretariat, in accordance with the recommendations of the 12th Session of its Council, has given in the period following this Session an increasing importance to the preparation of International Conferences and Seminars on the most important issues relating to economic and social development of the countries of the two continents.

The International Seminar on the questions of oil, raw materials and development, to be held in Baghdad on June 1-2, 1976, will be one of the important steps that will undoubtedly lead to defining joint stands on the part of the developing countries in their struggle for economic independence.

The Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organisation along with the Iraqi Council for Peace and Solidarity and the World Peace Council will exert efforts for the participation of the largest possible number of scientists and experts of the developing, socialist and capitalist countries in this seminar.

The Permanent Secretariat proposes the formation of a preparatory group for this Seminar comprising Iraq, India, ARE, Algeria, Guinea, Somalia, USSR, Democratic Yemen, Hungary and GDR with Baghdad as the permanent headquarters, as of March, 1st., 1976.

This group is to be responsible for wide preparation activities including the preparation of the General Declaration, drafts, special documents and contacts with experts and specialists, academic institutes, the compiling of documents, and invitation of participants.

We believe that should such preparatory group succeed, it could become the future nucleus for the Information and Research Centre of AAPSO.

We suggest that the first international preparatory meeting for this Seminar be convened on mid-March in Baghdad, following which, the permanent body can start its activities.

We can consider the preparatory work done by AAPSO for Baghdad Seminar, as one stage of the preparatory stages for the U.N. International Seminar for Trade and Development to be held in Nairobi next May.

We are confident that the said group will successfully carry out its task in defining the stand of AAPSO during the Seminar, therefore, paramount importance should be attached to the question of the group's formation.

Besides the Baghdad Seminar, the Permanent Secretariat continued negotiations with the respective countries and organisations on convening the various regional seminars on special problems such as the ones on Food and Mineral Resources in the service of the people's interest (Malagashy), the Training of National Cadres (Afghanistan) as well as problems of the development of science, culture and education, etc.

We could say that the events which are actually taking place in Africa, Asia and Latin American constitute in fact another struggle for independence. The wide wave of nationalizations of foreign concessions, and the reassertion of national rights over natural resources, and the establishment of national control over national economy, the rise of some raw materials' price, the U.N. declaration of the principles of equity, equality and mutual interests in international economic relations, were the most significant results achieved by the Third World during the last two years.

The movement of non-alignment pays great attention to the solution of the economic problems of the developing countries. The activity of the movement does frustrate the manoeuvres of imperialism and is always exercising an ever growing pressure on it. How keen the non-aligned countries are to consolidate their political, and win their economic independence, was further demonstrated at the 8th U.N. special session on Development as well as at the 30th U.N. General Assembly session. The results of these debates and consequent events will be the subject matter for the meeting of the Heads of State and Government, scheduled for August 16 - 19, 1976 in Colombo.

AAPSO firmly supports all progressive decisions and actions of the non-aligned movement. This support was appreciated by many of the participants at the Lima Conference of Foreign Ministers of non-aligned countries held in August 1975 where AAPSO was represented by Deputy Secretary General — Mr. O.P. Paliwal. The positive significance of the involvement and mobilization of popular mass organisations, such as AAPSO, in the movement on non-alignment was specially stressed on the Lima forum.

We state our willingness to contribute to the preparations for the Fifth Summit Conference of the non-aligned countries as well as to actively participate in its work through a delegation and research papers.

The AAPSO Permanent Secretariat suggested that a high-level delegation be sent to Colombo in March 1976 to confer with H.E. Premier Sirimavo Bandaranaike on the place of AAPSO in the non-alignment movement as well as the contribution of our Organisation to preparations and convocation of the Colombo Conference. In this respect, we are expecting the kind assistance of our brothers from the Sri-Lanka Afro-Asian Solidarity Association. We already sent relevant letters to Mrs. Bandaranaike as well as to our member organisation, the National Solidarity Association.

Imperialism still represents the basic obstacle to the developing countries' march towards independence and progress. Imperialism not only hinders the economic and social progress of these countries, but also takes an aggressive stand vis-à-vis the states that oppose its schemes, and try to impose upon them social, economic and political regimes that would help it preserve foreign control and dependence to colonialism. The basic goal of neo-colonialism's strategy is to develop, in the Third World, a kind of industrial production that would tie up the developing countries to imperialism by new links, to maintain the role of developing countries as agricultural and industrial annexes to the developed capitalism.

Imperialism also strives for securing the continuing import of raw materials needed for Western economy with

lucrative conditions, under the guise of so-called interdependence.

Facing imperialistic endeavours to retaliate for the defeats it has sustained in the past years, the national liberation movement should be determined on the unity of its ranks, on solidarity and mutual cooperation, and the resolute struggle for its interests within the international capitalist market, as well as on the consolidation of its alliance with the Socialist community.

There is no doubt that AAPSO will, in fact, accomplish its noble historic mission with credit.

INTERNATIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL QUESTIONS

When speaking of the international activities of our Organisation, we find it necessary to note the constant intensification of the activities which won the Organisation a high prestige on the international scene. The Organisation's international activities centered on trends the basic outlines whereof were drawn up by the Organisation's 11th. Council held in March 1974 in Baghdad, Iraq. These trends crystallized in the first and second AAPSO Presidium meetings and were confirmed and intensified recently at the AAPSO 12th Council held in September 1975 in Moscow, USSR. These trends can be summed up in :

(1) Building up closer relationship between the Organisation and the United Nations and its affiliated organisations such as the UNESCO, the Committees for Decolonization and Combatting Racism, the International Labour Organization and others.

(2) Strengthening the Organization's relations with the regional governmental organisations, such as the Organization of African Unity, the OAU Liberation Committee, the Arab League, the International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions, the Arab Labour Organization, and others.

(3) Consolidation and development of the Organization's relations with World democratic organizations sharing common objectives, such as the World Peace Council, the International Democratic Women's Federation, the International Democratic Youth Federation, the Students' World Federation, the International Trade Unions Federation, the International Journalists Organization, the International Democratic Jurists League and the Arab Lawyers Federation.

(4) Strengthening the Organisation's relations with the non-governmental organisations enjoying the consultative status at the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

The Permanent Secretariat was inspired in all its activities by these four trends. Hence, it could be said that the Organisation's international activities during the period between the Presidium Second and Third Meetings were characterized by vitality and comprehensiveness, its voice and policy were clear in every world symposium and at every international event. The Permanent Secretariat was intent on execution the Programme of Action recommended by the AAPSO 11th Council and endorsed by the Presidium at its first and second meetings. During the period between the Presidium Second and Third Meetings (May 1975 — January 1976), the Permanent Secretariat carried out the following activities :

— Meetings of the Committees of Peace and Solidarity and the Liberation Movements of the Arab Countries. This meeting was held in Beirut on May 17 - 18, 1975 with the aim of studying the latest developments in the Middle East, probing the possibilities for escalating militant solidarity between Peace and Solidarity Committees and Arab Liberation Movements as well as coordinating their efforts and activities.

— AAPSO 12th Council, held in Moscow, the USSR, on September 17 - 19, 1975. It is considered a climax in AAPSO activities. Representatives of more than hundred African, Asian and Socialist countries as well as of international governmental, non-governmental and democratic organizations, participated in the meeting. Many of the heads of delegation were of the level of Party Chairmen, Politburo members and Ministers. They discussed all kinds of significant urgent issues in our contemporary world.

— The International Conference of Solidarity with the Peoples of Mozambique, Angola, Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde, and Sao Tome and Principe. This Conference was held in Lourenço Marques, Mozambique on September 27 - 28, 1975. It

was the first international peoples Conference to be held in independent Mozambique. Convening such a Conference was of extreme importance at a time when the Peoples of Southern Africa in general, and the people of Angola in particular, were in need of international solidarity and support.

— Joint Consultative Meeting between the Permanent Secretariat of AAPSO and Solidarity Committees in European Socialist Countries. This meeting was held in Berlin, the capital of GDR, on November 13 - 14, 1975.

The Permanent Secretariat lent this meeting special interest due to the active role played by the Solidarity Committees in the Socialist Countries, associate members of AAPSO, in the life and activities of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Movement. Besides, this meeting reflects the close relationship and reciprocal solidarity between the international national liberation movement and the Socialist Revolution.

The meeting was successful; viewpoints were exchanged, various possibilities for the implementation of the AAPSO 12th Council recommendations were discussed; means were defined for consolidating, and extending material and moral support to the Afro-Asian liberation movements, as well as Promoting Cooperation and coordination relationship between them and the Socialist countries.

Furthermore, the Organisation participated over the past seven months in the following activities :

- The Conference of Koreans Living in Japan (May 24-31, 1975) (Tokyo, Japan).
- The Meeting of the United Nations Decolonization Committee (June 12-18, 1975, Lisbon, Portugal).
- The United Nations World Conference of the International Women's Year (June 19-July 2, 1975, Mexico City, Mexico).
- The Italian National Conference on Peace and Justice in the Middle East (July 11-12, 1975, Rome, Italy).

- A Seminar within the framework of the U.N. Sponsored International Women's Year (July 15-20, 1975, Alma-Ata, Soviet Union).
- Ministerial Council of the OAU and the African Summit Conference (July 18-August 1st, 1975, Kampala, Uganda).
- Meeting of the International Executive Preparatory Committee (July 28, 1975, Berlin, G.D.R.).
- Second Session of the International Preparatory Committee (July 29-30, 1975, Prague, Czechoslovakia).
- The International Conference of Solidarity with Cyprus (July 19-20, 1975, Nicosia, Cyprus).
- Symposium on the Role of Women in the Struggle Against Fascism and for a Lasting and Just Peace in the World (August 1975, Minsk — U.S.S.R.).
- Conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-aligned Countries (August 25-29, 1975, Lima, Peru).
- The U.N. Session on Development and Economic Cooperation (September 1975, United Nations Headquarters).
- The International Conference in Support of the Independence of Puerto Rico (September 1975, Havana, Cuba).
- The Working Group Commission Meeting in preparation for the International Women's Conference (September 10-12, 1975, Moscow, U.S.S.R.).
- Symposium of the Arab and African Women in preparation for the International Women's Conference (October 6-17, 1975, Hompolec, Czechoslovakia).
- Symposium for Solidarity with Angola and against the Armament of South Africa (October 17-19, 1975, Brussels, Belgium).
- International Women's Conference (October 20-24, 1975, Berlin, GDR).

AAPSO delegation to this Conference was led by Mr. Aziz Sherif, Deputy Chairman of AAPSO Presidium, State Minister

and Chairman of the Peace and Solidarity Council in Iraq. Mr. Sherif was elected Chairman of the Seventh Committee concerned with "Women and National Liberation Movement".

AAPSO contributed 2000 Dollars as well as sent three simultaneous Interpreters from French and English into Arabic and vice-versa. AAPSO, and particularly the Head of its delegation, played a prominent and active role in the success of this important international conference.

- The International Meeting for Solidarity with the Korean People (October 25, 1975, Damascus, Syria).
- International preparatory meeting for Forum to End the Arms Race and Disarmament, and the meeting of the Steering Committee of the World Congress of Peace Forces and the international campaign committee for a just peace in the Middle East (November 27-30, 1975, Vienna, Austria).
- The International Conference against Fascism (December 4-7, 1975, Patna, India).
- The International Meeting of Non-governmental Organisations in preparation for the Conference of Non-governmental Organisations in 1976. (December 5-7, 1975, Amsterdam, the Netherlands).
- Conference of African Foreign Ministers (January 1975, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia).
- The meeting of the Special Committee of International NGO's on Human Rights. (January 15, Geneva, Switzerland).

In the same period, the Permanent Secretariat sent out delegations to different parts of the world with the aim of communicating with member-committees and organisations as well as with brotherly and friendly organisations. Following is the series of visits undertaken by the Secretariat delegations during the period following the Second Presidium Meeting :—

- A visit to the Democratic Yemeni Republic to attend the celebrations marking the anniversary of the foundation of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman as well as to contact Yemeni officials, May 1975.
- A visit to the German Democratic Republic to participate in the Week for Solidarity with the Arab Peoples, and to hold talks with the GDR Solidarity Committee, June 2-9, 1975.
- A visit to Czechoslovakia for consultations and exchanging views with the Czechoslovak Solidarity Committee, June 5-12, 1975.
- A visit to Bulgaria for consultations and exchanging views with the Bulgarian Solidarity Committee, June 1975.
- The second visit to Mozambique to take part in independence celebrations as well as contact officials of the Front for the Liberation of Mozambique to prepare for the International Conference for Solidarity with the Peoples of Mozambique, Angola, Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde, and Sao Tome and Principe, June 25, 1975.
- A visit to the Soviet Union for talks, exchange of views and consultations with the Soviet Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity as well as to prepare for the AAPSO 12th Council, June 24-30, 1975.
- The third visit to Mozambique to prepare for the International Conference for Solidarity with the Peoples of the former Portuguese Colonies, August 1975.
- The second visit to South Vietnam for talks with the Vietnamese Solidarity Committee, September 1975.
- A visit to North Vietnam for talks with the Vietnamese Solidarity Committee, September 1975.
- A visit to Angola to take part in Independence celebrations and to prepare for the International Conference for Solidarity with the people of Angola, November 1975.

- A visit to Angola to prepare for the International Conference for Solidarity with the people of Angola due to be held in February 1976, December 11-16, 1975.
- A visit by the Secretariat delegation led by the Secretary General to Yugoslavia, the GDR, and the Soviet Union for talks with Solidarity Committees in these countries, December 1975.

The period between the Second and Third Presidium Meetings .

This period too witnessed a great activation of the role of Solidarity Committees in the Socialist countries thus reinforcing the role of our Organisation; Solidarity movements in West European countries and the United States also stepped up their activities during this same period. The Permanent Secretariat has constantly sought the consolidation of its ties with these movements. It should be noted here that the AAPSO is about to be admitted to the UNESCO membership of the "A" category. It also applied for the membership of the U.N. economic organisation, the UNCTAD. Acquiring membership of both Organisations will no doubt help AAPSO in reaching new areas as well as Western governmental and non-governmental organisations representing various aspects of world public in the capitalist countries.

Our Organisation's standing was also reinforced among the non-aligned countries group following its participation in the meeting of Lima, Peru, last August. In confirmation of this standing, AAPSO will participate with a high-level delegation in the forthcoming Non-alignment Conference due to be held in Sri Lanka in 1976.

As for the future international activities of our Organisation, the Permanent Secretariat has on its hands a full programme of action, the implementation of which requires complete support and continuous aid from all AAPSO members in general, the programme of action is herewith enclosed, and from the leading personalities of the Presidium in particular.

We particularly note here the International Symposium for Development due to be organised by the Permanent Secretariat for June 1976.

Meanwhile, the 12th Council had entrusted the Permanent Secretariat with the drawing up of a programme for the execution of a number of international and regional activities (symposia and conferences) on the crucial problems of economic and social development in the Asian and African countries. Under current circumstances, the large-scale exchange of expertise in terms of building up the State, the economic and cultural structure, and the creative study of the achievements of the Socialist countries in these fields, gain increasing importance. These activities aim at encouraging the developing countries to adopt a common stand in their struggle for economic independence as well as at promoting mutual understanding and unity in this hard struggle. The formulation of recommendations and specific proposals at these gatherings would help the success of this struggle. In light of this direction, the Permanent Secretariat will hold, jointly with the Iraqi Peace and Solidarity Council, the International Symposium on Development in June 1976 in Baghdad, Iraq.

We would also like to note the Organisation's interest in the International Forum to End the Arms Race and for Disarmament, due to be held in York, Britain, in March 1976, and organized by the World Peace Council. AAPSO participated and is participating in all organised activities relevant to this subject as it considers the struggle for disarmament and ending arms race as part of the primary objectives and tasks sought by the Afro-Asian Solidarity movements.

We note as well, the Permanent Secretariat's will to expand and intensify its activities as regards Latin America. AAPSO followed with satisfaction the Latin American Countries Organisation's forced decision to lift the embargo on Socialist Cuba which means acknowledgement and recognition of the stability and victory of the Cuban Revolution, and of the progressive transformations in many of the Latin Ameri-

can countries. The Permanent Secretariat sent a number of delegations to some Latin American countries where they took part in several meetings as well as contacted various parties and Latin American organisations. Hence, the Permanent Secretariat believes it is high time for creating ties with the progressive and democratic organisations in Latin America, particularly the Three Continents Organisation OSPAAAL (AALAPSO), and for coordinating with them in the sphere of Solidarity activities in support of the resistance of the valiant Chilean people against the fascist military dictatorship.

According to AAPSO constitution, the 12th Council gave mandate to the Permanent Secretariat in collaboration with the Presidium to implement the AAPSO programme of action according to its material and practical potentialities and in accordance with the current political situation in the Afro-Asian world. The 12th Council insisted upon giving active support to liberation movements and considered this one of AAPSO's primary tasks. Thus, it advised the Permanent Secretariat to continue mobilisation, coordination and securing practical aid to liberation movements in Africa and Asia while drawing up organizational steps towards this aim in light of the real needs of these movements. We would like to draw the attention here, that unless the Permanent Secretariat receives the required reinforcement and support, particularly materially, the day may come when it will not be able to carry out its international responsibilities with the required vitality and effectiveness. It may not be able even of discharging the great tasks entrusted to it by the AAPSO 12th Council.

The Permanent Secretariat, while raising this sensitive point, takes into consideration the resolution of the 12th Council stipulating that the year 1976 would be the 'Year of Solidarity with the Peoples of Africa and Asia'. It also takes into account that for the AAPSO and according to the 12th Council resolutions and the discussions carried out in its various Committees, 1976 will be a year of development and of disarmament, as well as a year for the promotion of rela-

tions between the Permanent Secretariat and the progressive and democratic forces in Latin America.

Hence, the Permanent Secretariat insists on the need to consider the material difficulties, confronting the Organisation in light of the new tasks facing out Afro-Asian movement.

We deem it our duty here to extend our thanks and appreciation to our member committees and organisations which never fail to give financial support to the Organisation, however small the aid, but we single out the Solidarity Committee in Egypt, the Peace and Solidarity Council in Iraq, the Soviet Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity and the Solidarity Committee in the GDR for their strong support and large financial contributions to the Permanent Secretariat.

As regards information and publication, the Permanent Secretariat is successfully continuing the publication of its monthly magazine, "Solidarity", while exerting efforts to raise its standard as regards contents or technical production alike.

The Secretariat is also planning to publish a theoretical quarterly the actual publication of which depends on the establishment of the Afro-Asian Research Centre.

The Permanent Secretariat appeals to all members participating in the third session of the Presidium to take initiatives aiming at the realisation of this objective.

Meanwhile, the publication and information plan for the forthcoming period includes the publication of the following books and booklets :

- Documents of the AAPSO 12th Council held in Moscow.
- Documents of the Lourenço Marques Conference.
- Documents of the joint meeting between the Permanent Secretariat delegation and Solidarity Committees in the Socialist countries.

- Documents of the Third Presidium Session held in Aden.
- A book on non-alignment before the Colombo Conference.
- A book on Apartheid.
- A book on the late Leader Amilcar Cabral.
- A book on Kwame Nkrumah.
- AAPSO documents on the support of the people of Angola.

AAPSO PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR 1976

THE MIDDLE EAST :

Working for the consolidation of the just struggle launched by the Arab peoples for a stable peace in this region, for their progress and prosperity, AAPSO will

1. Launch a wide international campaign, on the basis of AAPSO'S national member-organisations, for ensuring an all-round material and political support to the Palestinian resistance movement and for the liberation of all the Arab occupied territories.
2. Work for the convening of an international conference "for Peace and Justice in the Middle East" during the first half of 1976 (in Western Europe).
3. Organize a Seminar on Zionism (during the second half of 1976).
4. Consider the 7th December 1976 as "International Day of Solidarity with the Bahrein People".

AFRICA :

With an aim to make a maximum contribution to the intensification of the decolonisation processes in Africa and to the struggle against racism and Apartheid, the AAPSO will

1. Launch an international wide campaign for ensuring material support to the newly independent African States.
2. Hold the International Emergency Conference for Solidarity with the People of Angola, in Luanda, on February 2-4, 1976.
3. Organize, in cooperation with anti-imperialist and international democratic organisations an international con-

ference in support of the peoples of Southern Africa and against Apartheid (in a West European country).

4. Work for convening an international meeting of progressive forces in the countries of the Indian Ocean region, during the first semester of 1976, (proposed venue is Seychelles Island).
5. Work for holding the "International Conference for Solidarity with People of Zimbabwe" (during the second semester of 1976, proposed venue is Mogadishu).
6. Take an active part in the international conference on Human Rights in Namibia, sponsored by the U.N. and the International Association of Democratic Jurists (Dakar, Senegal, January 1976).

A S I A :

The AAPSO will work for

1. Continuation of its wide campaign aiming at the mobilization of material aid for contributing to the rehabilitation of the Vietnamese economy ruined by war and in particular for the completion of the building of Solidarity School.
2. Holding an international seminar on the role of men of science and culture in the struggle for security and cooperation in Asia, (during the first half of 1976).

RAW MATERIALS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL PROGRESS :

Considering these to be among the most important issues it will face in the next period, AAPSO plans to fulfil the following programme :

1. Holding a preparatory meeting in Baghdad in March 1976 on the convocation of the Development Symposium.
2. Holding an international meeting in order to elaborate concrete practical measures aimed at setting up a research

centre of the AAPSO, and invite the scientists from the AAPSO member organisations to meet in March 1976.

3. Participation with the World Peace Council and the Iraqi National Council for Peace and Solidarity in organizing the international symposium on development (which will be held in Baghdad, Iraq, in June 1976).
4. Convocation of a seminar on the problem of food in Africa, (in July 1976 in Tananarive).
5. Convocation of a scientific conference on the public sector, (during the second half of 1976 in Warsaw, Poland).
6. Convocation of an international symposium on the importance and the role of the united anti-imperialistic fronts for the countries following the non-capitalist course of development. (Second half of 1976 in Sofia, Bulgaria).
7. Convocation of a scientific conference on cooperatives (early in 1976 in Czechoslovakia).
8. Holding an international seminar on the training of the national cadres.

W O M E N :

AAPSO will continue in paying particular attention to women's problems and will work for stepping up its activities in this field and for developing the initiatives resulting from the International Women's Year.

AAPSO also will work for the application of the recommendations adopted by the U.N. Women's Conference in Mexico.

COOPERATION BETWEEN THE AFRO-ASIAN COUNTRIES AND THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES :

Aware of the cardinal importance of this cooperation for the successful struggle against imperialism and for peace in the world, the AAPSO will work for :

Convocation of the international meeting 'For Solidarity and Cooperation between the Developing and the Socialist countries'.

AAPSO is determined to contribute also to the consolidation of the world front of the progressive anti-imperialist forces. It will, therefore, work for holding an international symposium on information media and their role in combatting the ideological influence of imperialism, racism and Zionism.

The AAPSO is keen to play an important role and to make a worthy contribution to the Conference of the Non-Aligned countries which will be held in Colombo, Sri Lanka. The attention devoted by AAPSO to this issue stems from the great role played by the non-alignment movement in the struggle of the Afro-Asian peoples against imperialism, racism and Zionism.

The AAPSO will take part in all the activities of the Steering Committee of the World Congress of Peace Forces and will do its best to coordinate its activities with those of other international democratic organisations.

AAPSO will also work for enhancing its cooperation with some governmental organisations, such as the UN, OAU, the Arab League and others in their activities in the different fields which are of interest to the Organisation.

REPORT OF THE PERMANENT SECRETARIAT ON ANGOLA

by Joseph Nhlanhla

The Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organisation always true to its anti-imperialist solidarity role and internationalist duty at its first Presidium Meeting in Cairo in December 1974, decided to make 1975 a Year of Material Solidarity with the peoples of Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde, Mozambique, Angola, Sao Tome and Principe (former Portuguese colonies).

It sent delegations to many countries and Conferences, apart from numerous circulars to governmental, intergovernmental, international, regional and national non-governmental organisations in order to mobilise the international community to active support of these peoples. AAPSO correctly assessed the repercussions of the defeat and fall of Portuguese colonialism in Africa and fascism in Portugal as the result of the victorious struggles of the peoples of Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde Islands, under PAIGC, of Mozambique under FRELIMO, of Angola under MPLA and of Sao-Tomé and Principe under MLSTP, and the progressive forces of Portugal supported by the world progressive anti-imperialist front headed by socialist community.

The International Solidarity Conference held in Lourenço Marques, the capital of revolutionary Mozambique, from 27th to 28th Sept. 1975, was an important solidarity manifestation for the political and economic consolidation by the new states and for Angola. The Conference was also important in that it was held in a country that marked the extended new borders of freedom frontiers. This historic Conference adopted im-

portant documents; the Lourenço Marques Declaration, a resolution on Southern Africa, a resolution on the Indian Ocean as zone of peace and against imperialist military bases and more important it adopted a special appeal on Angola. This Conference was the first International Conference to be held in the young state and it was fittingly opened by President Samora Machel, President of the People's Republic of Mozambique and Frelimo and also member of this AAPSO Presidium.

The 12th Council Session of AAPSO held in Moscow, coinciding with the 30th Anniversary of the victory against racism, also paid special attention to Angola and adopted special appeal. Clearly spelt out in all these appeals on Angola is the international duty and role of the progressive forces against imperialist manoeuvres and manipulations and their use of neo-colonialist, racist and puppet local forces. Events have proved the timeousness of these appeals. Also the correct stand of AAPSO of recognising only one liberation movement that unite all progressive forces and heads the struggle for liberation has been proved absolutely correct.

The victories scored by the peoples of countries that were colonised by Portuguese colonialism shattered the unholy alliance of Pretoria, Salisbury and Lisbon, removed the buffer areas of Pretoria and Salisbury white minority racist dictatorship and radically altered the geo-political balance of forces decisively in favour of freedom and speedy liquidation of the last remnants of colonialism in the region and continent. These victories were brought about by the gallant and consistent anti-imperialist struggle of the National Liberation Movements, and by the tremendous support given by the world progressive anti-imperialist, freedom-loving forces, particularly the socialist community which plays the vanguard role internationally headed by the Soviet Union. This support continues to be of vital importance for final victory, for liquidation of imperialist and neo-colonialist intervention.

World imperialism having failed to stop the march of the Angolan people to independence under MPLA, headed by Dr.

Agostinho Neto, now President of the People's Republic of Angola and MPLA, in spite of not only refusing to assist the patriotic MPLA forces, but of its open help or poor fascist Caetano Portugal through NATO or directly to wage a dirty war for a decade and half, today pretend to champion freedom non-intervention. It is spreading a wrong characterisation of the present imperialist internationalist war in Angola as a civil-war, a brother versus brother war.

The struggle in Angola today is the continuation of the same struggle only now it is being fought at the level of anti-colonialism, anti-neo-colonialism and against the intervention of the racist Pretoria troops of South Africa, the American, FRG, UK, French and other imperialist so-called liberation movements of FNLA and UNITA. The events in Angola prove that particularly today when imperialism favours decolonisation that leads to neo-colonialism, it is necessary for progressive forces to firmly base our struggle for decolonisation on anti-imperialism, anti-neo-colonialism and for social progress. United States imperialism has displaced many colonial powers in the decolonisation that leads to neo-colonialism because of its vast imperialist resources. The battle in Angola today is the battle for the future, for the direction of the African Revolution. Angola has become the decisive theatre in which world imperialism wants to settle, in its own favour, two fundamental issues of the African Revolution. The first is the genuine national independence and majority rule for the peoples of South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe. The second is the struggle of Africa along the non-capitalist national road to consolidate their independence politically and economically against relations of neo-colonialist dependence on world imperialism.

Imperialism fears the revolutionary example of Angola, particularly in revolutionarily influence its neo-colonialist and racist colonial empires. The writing is on the walls in Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa. Imperialism knows that yesterday it was Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde Islands, and Mozambique, today it is Angola that is free and tomorrow it must be the rest of the still colonised areas of the continent.

Imperialist intervention through mercenaries, South African troops, troops from neighbouring neo-colonialist states or through phony assistance through its agents who are masquerading as liberation movements though long since 1961 been in the pay-roll of such notorious imperialist agency as CIA cannot be equated to genuine solidarity from socialist countries like Soviet Union, Cuba, GDR and other or from such militant anti-imperialist countries as Guinea, Mozambique, Angola, Algeria and others. The Soviet Union has always supported the genuine national liberation struggle, and has frustrated many an imperialist attempt to subvert national gains. The struggle in Angola today is a struggle between the forces of imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism and racism against the world anti-imperialist forces for genuine national independence.

AAPSO has sent many circulars and delegations to governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental forces requesting them to recognise the People's Republic of Angola and to demand withdrawals of all imperialist, racist and neo-colonialist troops and the respect of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of PRA under MPLA headed by President Dr. A. Neto. There were those that went to all Governments and then added lot that went to OAU member states just prior to the extraordinary Summit Conference in Addis Ababa from the 8th to the 13th January 1976 with task of assisting PRA. This was the first Extraordinary Assembly of Heads of State of OAU since its foundation in 1963. The Conference started at high level and pace. Many of the delegates were aware of the significance of Angolan issue. The Ghanaian Foreign Minister said: "Angola was at once the death knell and rejuvenation of OAU". It is death knell because any superficial solution prescribed for it would signify polarisation, if not the demise of the OAU. It also constitutes in a sense a rejuvenation because the prescription of a lasting solution will help rejuvenise and revitalise our efforts at liberation and thereby effectively promote... total eradication of colonialism from the continent...". President Samora Machel in clear terms condemned Pretoria, the country he rightly called "the

country of apartheid, symbol of intolerance and racist dogmatism, sworn enemy of the peoples of Africa". He condemned the traitors of FNLA and UNITA and demanded their ejection from the hall where they were seated as observers and said their place is with the racists in Pretoria and he demanded recognition of PRA, praised Dr. Neto, President of new Republic and demanded withdrawals of all imperialist troops. He called the victory of MPLA the victory of Africa and all mankind. Many others of the 23 countries that recognised PRA spoke along same lines : "The very holding of this extraordinary Summit in the face of imperialists attempts at sabotage was a victory for the progressive forces and a defeat for imperialism". It was initiated by revolutionary Somalia.

Although the Conference ended in dead lock, yet it cannot be said that the traitors of FNLA and UNITA had support. 23 recognised only PRA under MPLA whilst not a single country recognised the traitors as constituting a government. Many of the other 23 states recognised MPLA as leading force without which no government in Angola can exist. Only they wanted MPLA to extend and accept MNL and UNITA in so-called National Government. So that there is potential support for MPLA even amongst the other 23 states. Many of the other 23 are states that have consistently recognised only MPLA and have given their support. Efforts must be strengthened to win them over. Already Ethiopia have since recognised PRA. Majority accepted and recognised Soviet Union and Cuba as natural ally that always rendered help.

AAPSO will hold an Emergency International Solidarity Conference with the people of Angola in Luanda People's Republic of Angola from 2nd to 4th February. Already confirmation of participation is flowing from all over the world. There are more people than invited. Participation will be at a high level. AAPSO appeals to all its members to the entire international community, governmental and non-governmental, to render practical, material and moral support to the gallant fighters of MPLA and PRA. Let this Conference be a living witness to the fact that PRA is an irrevers-

ible reality, as an occasion to thank all those who have recognised PRA and MPLA, as an occasion to appeal to all the others who are friendly to MPLA who have always assisted her who for various reasons have not yet recognised PRA to do so, as an occasion to demand unconditional withdrawals of all S.A. troops, mercenaries P.D.E. agents, former Caetano troops, neo-colonialist interventionist troops, to withdraw immediately and unconditionally, to demand respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty of PRA, to request OAU and UN to accept PRA under MPLA as a sovereign independent state and lastly as an occasion to congratulate people, government and parties of Angola for victories and to pride ourselves as the international solidarity movement and AAPSO for our humble contribution.

The Third Presidium of AAPSO held in Aden, capital of Democratic Yemen, sends special congratulations and thanks to all the countries, governments, intergovernmental, non-governmental, international, regional and national organisations for their firm internationalist support, recognition and solidarity to the People's Republic of Angola under MPLA headed by Dr. Agostinho Neto. Particular mention must be made of the socialist countries, especially Soviet Union, Cuba and other and the countries of the Third World Guinea, Mozambique, Congo, Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde, Algeria, Nigeria and the Arab countries, particularly Democratic Republic of Yemen, Iraq and Syria for their unhesitating recognition and many many others. The list is bound to increase. AAPSO greatly appreciates the victories against foreign imperialist intervention now daily scored. AAPSO will not rest until every inch of PRA of Angola is cleansed of the dirty footsteps of imperialist forces and their puppets.

The Permanent Secretariat of AAPSO and the Presidium of AAPSO are happy to inform the participants that the Iraq Peace and Solidarity Committee has contributed the sum of 16,393 United States dollars to Angola towards the Emergency International Solidarity Conference with the people of Angola to be held in Angola, Luanda from 2-4 February. We greatly

thank Iraq and hope other members will follow this concrete solidarity revolutionary example, GDR giving charter plane to carry participants to and from Luanda and also Soviet Union Soviet Solidarity Committee for the transportation tickets to participants from outside route of chartered plane.

Long live anti-imperialist solidarity !

Long live anti-imperialist unity !

A luta continua ! Vittoria a certa !

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GENERAL DECLARATION

The Third Session of the AAPSO Presidium was held in Aden, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, on January 19-20, 1976 and was attended by members of the Presidium and the Permanent Secretariat as well as by representatives of associate member Solidarity Committees in the Socialist countries, solidarity movements of a number of African countries, and international democratic organisations.

The meeting discussed highly significant issues in the Afro-Asian Solidarity movement, particularly during the period since the Organisation's 12th Council, held in Moscow in September 1975.

The participants assert that the past period was marked by renewed victories of the anti-imperialist progressive forces as regards the reinforcement of the International movement for national liberation and the establishment of the policy of international detente. It was also marked by the general victory of the forces of peace, liberation and democracy against the forces of imperialism, reaction and aggression.

The attendants noted with great concern the development of the situation in the People's Republic of Angola and the plots schemed by world and U.S. imperialism as well as the reactionary forces in Africa, particularly the racist regime in South Africa, sworn enemy of the African peoples, in a bid to foil the independence of Angola and to strike the experienced leadership of the Angolan people, The Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA). They are trying to do so through the encouragement of internal pro-imperialist groups which were identified with the enemies of the Angolan people. The meeting, while stating absolute support for the MPLA and its Chairman Comrade Agostinho Neto, strongly condemn the internal pro-imperialist groups, the racist regime of South Africa, U.S. imperialism, NATO and their partners

who seek the subordination of the Angolan people to neo-colonialist domination.

The AAPSO Presidium urges all countries, who have not yet done so, to recognize the People's Republic of Angola under the leadership of MPLA, as well as calls upon the Organisation of African Unity and the United Nations to seek the recognition of the People's Republic of Angola.

The Presidium calls for speedy unconditional withdrawal of all imperialist foreign and South African troops backing the internal pro-imperialist groups.

The meeting expresses support and consolidation of the young African republics in Mozambique, Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde, Sao Tome and Principe and appeals to all world progressive forces to support and reinforce social and economic development, and progress in these countries.

The meeting condemns the racist regimes in South Africa, Namibia and Rhodesia as a disgrace to the African Continent.

It reaffirms once more full support for the liberation movements. The African National Congress Party of South Africa (SWAPO), and the African National Council of Zimbabwe.

The meeting also strongly condemns racial discrimination and calls upon the Permanent Secretariat to step up during the forthcoming period, the world drive for the eradication of racism.

The meeting also considers with great concern the development of the situation in Lebanon posing a great challenge to the whole Arab national liberation movement. It deems the incidents in this Arab country part of the imperialist conspiracy designed to strike the Palestinian resistance and create conditions helping Israel to break its isolation and providing it with new chances and possibilities to continue its aggression on the Arab countries. It also aims at creating larger opportunities for Arab reaction backed by imperialist circles, to close its grip on the area, paralyse the movement of the prog-

ressive Arab regimes and strike the detachments of the Arab liberation movement.

The meeting declares its absolute support for the courageous Palestinian resistance movement, and considers that the support to, and victory of this movement is a great victory for the Arab liberation movement and the world progressive forces.

The peoples of the Arab countries which have suffered from the Israeli aggression are persistent in their struggle for the establishment of a just and permanent peace in the Middle East. As a result of the struggle of the Palestinian people and the other progressive Arab forces, and of the active development of the wide world solidarity with Arab peoples, the isolation of the Israeli aggressors, supported by imperialism and world Zionism is becoming more marked than ever.

The Presidium reaffirms its absolute support for the struggle of the Palestinian people as well as other Arab peoples, for full liberation of the occupied territories and complete restoration of the rights of the Palestinian people, particularly its right to self-determination on its homeland and the establishment of its independent national state on any liberated part of its land.

The meeting supports, as well, the U.N. resolution condemning Zionism as a racial ideology. This resolution is considered an international triumph for the Palestinian people whose land and rights were usurped by Zionism. The meeting calls upon the Permanent Secretariat to intensify its world propaganda and activities towards the condemnation of Zionism and the exposure of its racist objectives as well as its imperialist ties.

The meeting believes that the current Security Council debate on the Palestinian question should urge all progressive forces to support the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and recognize the lawful national rights of the Palestinian people.

The Presidium expresses appreciation and support for the prominent role played by the People's Democratic Republic

of Yemen in backing the anti-imperialist movements and the Arab and international national liberation movement.

The participants believe that the Yemeni Democratic Republic could only play this progressive role if the forces of progress, peace and democracy continue their political, moral and material support while exposing the conspiracies schemed against it, and denouncing military attacks against its borders and people.

The Presidium meeting expresses support for the struggle of the Omani people against imperialist domination as well as against reactionary regimes in the area, and pronounced support for the heroic struggle waged by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman.

The meeting supports the struggle of the Eritrean people for obtaining its national democratic rights within a framework safeguarding the interests of both the Ethiopian and the Eritrean peoples.

The Presidium expresses as well its support of the struggle of the people of the Somali Coast for independence and liberty.

The Presidium meeting calls upon the Sudanese government to set free political detainees, return the dismissed to their jobs, stop expulsion from work for political affiliation and release trade unionist freedoms.

The Presidium supports previous AAPSO resolutions concerning the Sahara as well as congratulates the people of the Sahara on the evacuation of the Spanish troops and end of Spanish colonialism. It appeals to all concerned parties to settle the Sahara question by peaceful means so as to guarantee the rights of the Sahara people in a way that reinforces the anti-imperialist, anti-colonialist and anti-reactionary forces in this region while safeguarding the higher Arab interest. The imperialist plot against the Arab liberation movement extends to North Africa. Hence, the Algerian Revolution is exposed to imperialist and reactionary confrontations designed to block progressive transformations in Algeria.

The Presidium supports the struggle of the Moroccan people and its progressive forces for the restoration of all

its territories still under Spanish colonialism, Ceuta, Melilla and Jaafarine Islands, as well as backs its fight for the construction of a liberated democratic Morocco where justice and equality prevail.

The session expresses great concern for the continuing aggression and occupation in Cyprus, as well as insists on the necessity for the immediate implementation of the U.N. resolutions and calls for practical measures to put pressure on Turkey for the implementation of the U.N. resolutions. It condemns all unilateral actions, such as the declaration of a so-called Turkish federated state, and any effort of colonisation and demographic restructure. It firmly supports a solution securing an independent, unitarian, demilitarized, non-aligned, territorially integral Cyprus.

The Presidium hails the emergence of the People's Democratic Republic of Laos and the endorsement of the new democratic constitution of the Cambodian government as well as the current process of unification of the two Vietnams, which issues have become vital factors of peace in Asia.

A new position has emerged in Asia consolidating the posts of peace and non-alignment as well as reinforcing collective security there. The masses drive in Japan against military bases is escalating while the demand for turning the Indian Ocean into a demilitarized zone of peace, free of aggressive military bases, has become a popular demand backed by the majority of the Continent's countries regardless of the nature of their social systems.

The meeting notes with concern the indulgence in arms race and stockpiling of deadly weapons including nuclear weapons, by the imperialist countries. The imperialists, especially the U.S. imperialists, are dumping arms in their client states, that which is posing a great challenge to the peace-loving countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America as well as to world peace.

Hence, this meeting strongly condemns this arms race and dumping of arms, and whole heartedly supports the New

Stockholm Appeal of the World Peace Council for stopping arms race and destruction of all nuclear weapons.

The AAPSO Presidium fully supports the people of Timor led by FRETILIN, in their struggle for national liberation. We demand immediate withdrawal of Indonesian military troops from Timor to let the people of Timor shape their own future.

The meeting strongly supports the draft submitted by the Democratic Republic of Korea for the peaceful reunification of both Koreas while it condemns U.S. imperialism which impede these efforts and calls for the evacuation of the imperialist U.S. forces from South Korea.

The AAPSO Presidium extends its full support to the people of Chile in their struggle against the criminal fascist regime and for restoration of complete democracy and people's rule.

The Third Session of the AAPSO Presidium meeting carefully records the increasing role of the Socialist countries, notably the Soviet Union, the forces of international liberation movement and of democracy in the capitalist world, in changing the face of the world in favour of liberation, independence, democracy and social progress.

The meeting urges, as well, for the reinforcement and expansion of the international detente policy and the intensification of the policy of peaceful co-existence between countries of different social systems and draws attention to the need to achieve complete disarmament and limitation of strategic arms.

Our experience proved anew the importance of the conclusions reached by our Organisation. The struggle for international detente and disarmament reinforces the grounds of struggle against imperialism and capitalism, and this struggle, in turn, steps up the cause of international detente.

The Third Presidium Session approves the report of the Permanent Secretariat on its overall activities as expresses satisfaction of the efforts exerted by the Permanent Secretariat towards the application of the 12th Council resolutions and the reinforcement of the struggle of the peoples of Asia and Africa.

RESOLUTION ON ANGOLA

The Third Meeting of the AAPSO Presidium is gravely concerned about the continuing aggression against the genuine liberation movement and the only legitimate representative of the people, the M.P.L.A. and calls upon all its national committees to take urgent measures to support the heroic struggle of the people of Angola, under the MPLA, against the internal group which, in coordination with South African troops and mercenaries, are trying to undermine the real independence and peoples' rule.

It specifically calls :

— For a further intensification of mobilisation of world progressive forces to put pressure on their governments to denounce the Angolan puppet groups, with which the patriotic forces must not and will not form a so-called government of national unity.

— Mobilisation of world public opinion against the South African aggression in Angola as well as the U.S. manoeuvres, whose aim is to create troubles in Angola and put under their control the country's national resources.

— Mass campaigns for the immediate withdrawal of all these aggressive forces and the cessation of their intervention.

— Mobilisation of the progressive forces adherent to the great movement of solidarity with the people who are fighting for real independence to intensify the anti-imperialist solidarity and campaigns by every means for the immediate recognition of the legitimate government of FRA (MPLA), which led the liberation struggle of the people and is now leading the country to real independence.

— Pave all steps for a mass participation and utmost success of the Luanda Emergency Conference in Solidarity with Angola, 2-4 February, 1976.

— Ask for an international campaign to render material assistance to the Angolans who are now returning to their areas, previously under military occupation by the internationalist enemies, and whose properties have been looted and burnt by the enemy.

— The Presidium makes an urgent appeal for an all round material support to enable the Angolan people under the MPLA to repulse the aggressor enemy of Angola and enable Angola to start the urgent task of reconstruction.

A P P E A L
TO THE
WORLD PUBLIC OPINION

Fifteen years ago, the Angolan people set forth fighting for independence and freedom to rid itself of the abject yoke of colonialism suffocating it for centuries. Since the first moment of the struggle of the valiant Angolan people against Portuguese exploiters backed by imperialist powers, the AAPSO gave support to those fighting for the freedom of Angola under the leadership of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA), the vanguard of the Angolan people. It provided them with aid and support alongside all world democratic organisations as well as all those hardly seeking the victory of national forces.

AAPSO was inspired in its views and actions by non-biased noble humane objectives. Our warm sympathy and unconditional support stemmed from the common noble aspirations of all the peoples struggling against forces of imperialism, racism, neo-colonialism and Apartheid. When the flag of the new sovereign African State, the Popular Republic of Angola, fluttered in the skies of Luanda on the night of 10-11 November, 1975, we felt an overwhelming happiness at the triumph of the just cause as well as experienced pride for having contributed to the victory of the people of Angola.

However, the enemies of Angola insist on depriving it of its independence. Thus, the racist regime in the Republic of South Africa launched in collaboration with mercenaries from the Western countries and under the banners of false agent organizations, a new colonial war against the People's Republic of Angola. This constitutes a grave challenge to the vital interests of the peoples of Africa because the imminent dan-

ger threatening the sovereign People's Republic of Angola is the same danger threatening the cause of liberty and independence of Africa at large.

The new colonial war waged by the Republic of South Africa and its Western imperialist sponsors against the people of Angola should be stopped immediately.

Those involved, in their criminal thinking aiming at the maintenance of the bridgeheads of neo-colonialism in the African Continent, bet on the division of the independent African countries. They will spare nothing for the realisation of this target, they use methods of blackmail, threats and inducements seeking to pressure sovereign African governments.

This is not the first time the African Continent faces a hard test, for we know the cunning schemes planned by those who put their stake on the division of Nigeria by supporting the secessionists. We have not yet forgotten the development of events in Congo which, after getting rid of the Belgian colonialism, became a target of imperialist conspiracies and plots. At present still, the need to face the savage attacks waged by internal and external forces of reaction is imposed upon the young People's Republic of Angola. The People of Angola announced to the World at large since the first moment of its independence, its objectives and the missions of its new sovereign State, and the People's Republic of Angola declared its affiliation to the non-aligned countries struggling for their interests and their right to sovereignty. The People's Republic of Angola announced as well to the whole world, its programme as regard its national economic development, raising the standard of living of its citizens and liquidation of the heritage of the colonialist past.

Those intervening seek by their new colonial war against the People's Republic of Angola, to deny it the possibility of executing its planned objectives.

Because of all this, the creation of a unified front comprising all the countries and the peoples as well as all honest people in defence of the People's Republic of Angola and in

support of its just struggle, becomes at present one of its most important objectives. We are confident that the International Emergency Conference due to be held in Luanda on February 2-4, 1976, comes in response to this specific aim.

We, meeting in Aden, strongly support the initiative for convening this Conference and appeal to all international and national organisations struggling against racism and national oppression, and for democracy and national progress, to participate in that important meeting so that the largest representation possible could be realised.

It is a matter of further importance to declare our extensive support for the People's Republic of Angola until peace and calm return to Angola, and the forces of reaction and imperialism refrain from shedding the blood of the people of Angola.

The world public opinion could and should announce its decisive word.

**Participants in the Third Meeting
of the AAPSO Presidium
Aden, January 20, 1976**

RESOLUTION ON THE ARAB PENINSULA AND THE ARAB GULF

As the Third Presidium Meeting is aware of the present conditions in the Arab Peninsula and the Arab Gulf at a grave stage of violent conflict between the Arab people in this area with its vanguard the National Liberation Movement, on one hand and the imperialist forces which try to dominate this vital region, on the other; it expresses solidarity with the armed revolution in Oman under the leadership of the People's Front for the Liberation of Oman. The meeting expresses solidarity with the revolution in its struggle against the British Iranian presence and the military bases which endanger security and peace in the region and pose a menace to the freedom of the people of the Arab Peninsula and the Indian Ocean countries.

The Presidium calls on all forces of national liberation in the world and the liberated Arab countries to consolidate the revolution of the Omani people under the leadership of the People's Front for the Liberation of Oman in its struggle for liberation, independence, national sovereignty and social and economic progress.

The Presidium is of the view that the foreign designs embodied in the occupation of Arab islands in the Arab Gulf and the direct military invasion on the part of Iran and the imperialist forces aimed at aborting the armed revolution in Oman and striking at the liberation movement in the Gulf point to a serious phenomenon, aiming at obliterating the Arabism of the Gulf. This, in turn, is aimed at having full control over the Gulf by the foreign troops stationed there. Therefore, we appeal to all the liberation forces in the Arab Peninsula and the Arab world for solidarity and cohesion in countering all the new conspiracies. We call on all forces that

stand for liberation, justice and progress to consolidate the armed revolution in Oman and the liberation movement in the Peninsula and the Gulf.

As the Presidium denounces the puppet regime in Oman for betraying the national cause of the Omani people, it calls for the evacuation of all British, Iranian and Jordanian bases, nullifying the pertinent political and military agreements and granting the Omani people the rights to self-determination without foreign intervention. As the Presidium Third Meeting denounces the desolving of the National Council in Bahrein, the suspension of the constitution, the ban on national and democratic practices, the pursuit of democratic forces there and casting them in prisons and detention camps perpetrated by the British Intelligence Organ and the regime in Bahrein. The meeting calls for the restoration of the National Council which scored great success. We also call for putting the constitution into force, releasing political detainees and democratic freedoms as well as expelling the foreign troops.

The meeting urges the Chairman of the Command Council in the Arab Republic of Yemen to endeavour to release political detainees, to insure democratic freedom, and the freedom of syndical life so that the Yemeni people may preserve their independence, economic and social development and effecting unity on a sound democratic base.

As the Third Presidium Meeting hails the role of the progressive democratic Yemen in consolidating the Arab and international liberation movements in their fight against colonialism and imperialism, it denounces the machinations hatched against them as well as condemns military attacks on its borders. It calls on all liberation forces in the world to support it in its struggle for defending its land and sovereignty and for establishing an advanced developed society.

RESOLUTION ON THE MIDDLE EAST, PALESTINE AND CYPRUS

The meeting of the AAPSO Presidium held in Aden on January 19-20, 1976, having discussed current positions and developments in the Middle East area in the light of the resolutions of the AAPSO 12th Council held in Moscow in September 1975, and of the developments in the area since the Moscow Meeting up to the present, asserts the following

1. Its full commitment to the resolutions of the 12th Council as an accurate reflection of the existing situation in the area and the need to apply and implement them.

2. LEBANON :

Aware of the gravity of the existing situation in Lebanon and the dimensions of the imperialist reactionary conspiracy designed to strike the Palestinian Revolution and the Lebanese national movement through gory slaughters currently carried out against Palestinian and Lebanese masses alike; and in belief that this explosive situation seriously affects the course of liberation of the peoples of Asia and Africa with the dangers it creates threatening to blow up the situation in the Middle East as well as endangers the independence and unity of its countries and opens the way for Zionist colonial intervention; and,

In adherence to the AAPSO Charter calling for the support of liberation causes in Asia and Africa as well as defence of the two continents' peoples and their independence;

The meeting condemns the reactionary-Zionist-imperialist plot against the Palestinian Revolution, and against the Palestinian and Lebanese masses. It calls for ending the brutal massacres carried out against them by the agent and reactionary forces, particularly the fascist Kataeb Party. It also urges for world solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinian people with all material and moral means as well as support for its legitimate right to defend itself and its revolu-

tion until it realises its victory so as to preserve its entity and its revolution.

The meeting condemns, as well, the reactionary and imperialist attack against the Lebanese national and progressive forces with the aim of liquidating them, aborting their just and lawful democratic demands, and striking their cohesion with the Palestinian Revolution. It calls for solidarity with these forces in their just struggle and their confrontation with the fascist reactionary, imperialist and Zionist forces as well as for foiling the imperialist and reactionary schemes aiming, among other things, at shattering the unity of the Lebanese soil and creating a sectarian reactionary entity which would be a counterpart to Israel in the region.

The Presidium strongly denounces the brutal bombing on the Palestinian camps in Lebanon over the past days, putting an end to the lives of tens of unarmed Palestinian citizens.

The meeting calls upon all Arab liberation and progressive forces, social organisations and world public opinion to seek an immediate cease-fire in Lebanon, and an end to the siege imposed on the Palestinian camps, as well as for the settlement of all problems through diplomatic dialogue.

It also urges the peoples of Asia, Africa and the developed countries as well as humanitarian organisations the world over, to extend immediate medical and food aid to help thousands of victims in Lebanon among the Lebanese and Palestinian masses.

The meeting, in view of this grave situation, suggests that the Permanent Secretariat convoke an international popular conference in the shortest possible delay, for solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinian people and the Lebanese national movement.

3. ZIONISM :

AAPSO has been among the first organisations and powers which condemned Zionism as a racist expansionist,

reactionist and fascist movement which has been established on the same ideological basis on which racist regimes were based in alliance with colonialism and the constant link with it. It has also been established through the occupation of part of land for the benefit of a certain group of men, and dispersing the original inhabitants who are the owners of the land, through violence, terrorism and territorial expansion.

The Zionist movement began since the first Zionist conference held in Basle in 1897, the beginning of the age of settlers colonialism which was achieved through immigrants settling in the land of others and replacing them by force and terrorism. These immigrants built their ideology on a superior form which can adjust itself in accordance with the different circumstances by raising demographic slogans based on myths and historical forecasts, supposedly considered as still valid, with racist discrimination, superiority and incapsulation as their dimensions.

The Zionist movement is the result of world capitalism and has become its backbone.

The Israeli policy, with its racist method in the Arab lands, has given a practical application to the racist content of Zionism through the application of a group of laws and policies against the Palestinian masses in the occupied lands, and against Palestinian and eastern Jewish masses in Israel.

The Presidium affirms the UN General Assembly's resolution adopted at the U.N. 30th Session, condemning Zionism and considering it one form of racism. It considers it necessary to work for the expansion of the world campaign for exposing the racist nature of Zionism and the Zionist and racist policy of Israel. In this respect, it calls upon the Permanent Secretariat to seek the convening of a world conference for exposing and condemning Zionism. This meeting also condemns the Zionist Conference to be held in Brussels as a reactionist attempt to defend the Zionist movement.

CYPRUS :

The Presidium observes with great concern the continued occupation of Cyprus, and the refusal by Turkey to be committed to, and implement the UN resolutions; such resolutions calling for the withdrawal of all foreign forces and the return of all refugees to their homes.

The Cyprus issue is one of an obvious aggression and occupation incited by the U.S. in an attempt to dominate the natural resources of the area, along with all available communication means.

The Presidium announces its full solidarity with the people of Cyprus and its legitimate Government headed by Archbishop Makarios. It calls upon all countries to unconditionally support the struggle of the people of Cyprus for an independent, unified and sovereign Cyprus, non-aligned, demilitarized and enjoying territorial integrity.

It also reaffirms its commitment to all resolutions adopted by AAPSO, particularly those of the 12th Council of the Organisation, and calls upon the Secretariat to work for its implementation.

RESOLUTION ON SOUTHERN AFRICA

The demise of Portuguese colonialism in Africa has ushered in a new era in Southern Africa, a change in the balance of forces in favour of the progressive forces and the liberation movements.

Considering the above factors, the 3rd meeting of the AAPSC Presidium held in Aden, January 19-20, 1976, pledges itself to give unflinching support to the oppressed peoples of Southern Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia through their authentic liberation movements, namely, ANC-SA, ANC (Z), and SWAPO (Namibia). The Presidium Meeting further undertakes to do the following :

A. SOUTH AFRICA.

1) Alert the international community of the dangers resulting from international imperialist actions by the FRG, USA, France, UK, and other NATO countries, to build up armament industries in South Africa, and to mount pressure on the governments concerned to cease forthwith their dangerous policy.

2) specifically condemns the nuclear conspiracy between the FRG and SA which poses a threat to peace in Africa and the world at large.

3) condemns South Africa's initiated diabolical so-called detente exercise as a ruse to perpetuate white supremacy in South Africa.

4) condemns the invasion of Angola by South Africa's armed forces; and demand their immediate withdrawal from that country.

5) calls upon the UN, governments, international agencies and organizations, in concert, to apply a minutious arms embargo against the South African white minority regime.

6) campaign for the liquidation of imperialist military bases in South Africa and similar bases in the Indian Ocean, such as Diego Garcia.

7) intensify the boycott of all South African goods, to isolate the racist regime in the economic, political and cultural fields, and to impose mandatory economic sanctions on the fascist regime.

8) denounces the balkanization of South Africa through the Bantustan policy as a fraud and a usurpation of the right of indigenous people to their country. And, therefore, call on the international community to reject it and unequivocally to support the territorial integrity and unity of the country.

B. ZIMBABWE.

1) re-affirms unwavering support for the struggle of the people of Zimbabwe for majority rule and independence.

2) supports the African National Council of Zimbabwe led by Comrade Joshua Nkomo in its present efforts to seek a negotiated constitutional settlement based on majority rule and in its determination to intensify armed struggle should peaceful negotiations fail;

3) condemns the continued rule of terror by the Smith regime through its emergency legislation, especially the detention and imprisonment of political activists; the execution of freedom fighters being an act of murder by the illegal regime.

4) condemns Britain's unwillingness to abide by UN wishes to implement a comprehensive programme of economic sanctions against Rhodesia and the sanctions busting W. European countries vis-a-vis, USA, FRG, France, Spain, Japan, etc.

5) condemns South Africa's military presence in Rhodesia despite its promises to pull out its troops.

C. NAMIBIA

1) re-affirms that South Africa's presence in Namibia is illegal according Resolution 2541 (XXI) of 1966,

2) condemns the use of Namibia as a base for military aggression against neighbouring African countries, specifically Angola.

3) demands the withdrawal of South Africa from Namibia forthwith.

4) denounces the illegal regime's ruthless eviction of Namibian people from their villages to facilitate its military designs and aggression against independent Angola.

5) demands the demilitarization of Namibia.

6) calls for the release of all Namibian political prisoners illegally imprisoned in both South African and Namibian jails.

7) supports SWAPO as the authentic representative of the Namibian people.

RESOLUTION ON KOREA

The 3rd Meeting of the Presidium of the AAPSO held in Aden, the capital of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen from 19th and 20th January, 1976, has discussed the question of the immediate withdrawal of the U.S. troops from South Korea.

The meeting warmly supported and welcomed the passage by an overwhelming majority vote of the joint resolution cosponsored by 43 U.N. member nations at the 30th U.N. General Assembly session, whose keynote is the dissolution of the "U.N. command", the withdrawal of all foreign troops occupying South Korea under the U.N. flag and the replacement of the Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement.

With the adoption of this resolution, all the illegal "resolutions" fabricated by the coercion of the United States at the U.N. in the past were declared null and void and the United States can neither cover up its criminal acts being committed in South Korea under the name of the United Nations nor can it find any pretext for the U.S. imperialist aggression troops to remain in South Korea.

This notwithstanding, the U.S. authorities are openly clamouring that the occupation of South Korea by the U.S. troops "shall not be affected" by the vote of the U.N. General Assembly and the United States "is not willing to implement the resolution of the current U.N. General Assembly" and intensifying the new war provocation manoeuvres as never before while bringing uninterruptedly into South Korea mass destruction weapons and staging war exercises.

This is a wanton violation of the U.N. resolution which represents the unanimous desire of most of the sovereign states and the peace-loving peoples of the world and a grave

challenge to the unbiased public opinion of the world that demands the peaceful settlement of the Korean question.

The meeting sternly protests and condemns this high handed tyranny of the U.S. authorities and strongly demands that they, in compliance with the resolution of the 30th U.N. General Assembly, immediately dissolve the 'U.N. command', unconditionally withdraw the U.S. troops occupying South Korea and accept at once the proposal of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to conclude a peace agreement.

If the United States does not withdraw its troops from South Korea and continues to follow the policy of aggression and war in Korea, it will not escape from the greater protest and denunciation of the world peoples.

The meeting ardently appeals to peoples of all the countries of the world and international democratic organisations that value peace and justice to extend wide international support and solidarity to the Korean people in their just struggle for the withdrawal of the U.S. imperialist aggression troops from south Korea and the reunification of the country.

The meeting decides to send a special information on Korea to all the peace-loving countries, international organisations, national organisations and the broad sections of the world.

RESOLUTION ON CHILE

The meeting of the AAPSO Presidium convening in Aden declares that the tripartite fascist junta is still practising the bloody persecution acts against the Chilean people and wilfully ignores the world public opinion and its appeals to put an end to its arbitrary actions. It also ignores the resolutions of the international organisations such as the Human Rights Committee, the UNESCO and the ILO, all of which demand the release of the political detainees and closing concentration camps, bringing to an end its terrorist actions, respect of workers' gains and applying the principles of human rights in Chile.

The AAPSO strongly denounces the attempts to present comrades Louis Corvalan, Andres Sepulveda, Fernando Flores, Anibal Palma and Pedro Ramuer before a court martial and demand their urgent release. The AAPSO also stresses its support of the struggle of the Chilean people and demands the military junta to apply the resolutions of the U.N. General Assembly and other international organisations.

RESOLUTION
ON THE SOMALI COAST (DJIBOUTI)

‘The Third Presidium Meeting of the Afro-Asian Peoples’ Solidarity Organization (AAPSO) is following with great concern the struggle of the people in the Somali Coast (Djibouti) under the occupation of the French imperialist authorities.

The Presidium stands in solidarity with the just cause of the people of the Coast and supports their struggle against the forces of colonialism and reaction for achieving self-determination and complete independence.

A.A.P.S.O. Presidium, at its third meeting, denounces the measures of repression, imprisonment, mass subjugation and police terrorism perpetrated by the French imperialist reactionary stooge authorities against the people of the occupied Somali Coast (Djibouti).

It also calls on the French government to stop all forms of repression, police terrorism and expulsion perpetrated against the people of the Somali Coast (Djibouti). It also calls on the French government to enable the nationalist democratic forces and the popular masses to take an effective part in self-determination and to hold free direct elections under the supervision of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations.

RESOLUTION ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Socio-economic development is one of the major tasks for the struggle of developing countries and the national liberation movement in general in both the Asian and African continents. This task primarily centres on economic independence, the implementation of radical progressive socio-economic transformations, raising the living standards of the people especially of the masses.

The struggle of the developing countries in the present time is concerned with liquidating of foreign monopolising capital, dismantling economic imperialist bases, facing attempts at multi-national capitalist infiltrations exercised by various monopolies which now seriously threaten the freedom and independence of the developing countries.

We can safely notice that the struggle of the developing countries for attaining their great aims of socio-economic development has largely succeeded in opening new scopes for following up the march of economic independence and social progress. This is particularly evident in the successes of the oil-producing countries, the nationalization of foreign capital, and the implementation of progressive transformation in all the economic and social fields.

Here we can feel the essential importance of the unity among the developing countries and their alliance with the Socialist countries as an indispensable measure for foiling the imperialist plans and, preserving economic independence, for beating backwardness, proceeding on the path of economic construction, and the adoption of the experiences of the past years. A realistic and sound assessment of the international

situation and its future anticipations asserts that the international detente does constitute an essential element of contemporary development and can help the developing countries in consolidating their economic independence, in effecting a state of overall development and in checking the aggressive imperialist forces.

As emphasized by the 12th AAPSO Council, held in Moscow in September 1975, the tasks of economic independence from imperialism centre in :

— Liquidation of feudal and semi-feudal production relationships in the countryside, undertaking extensive land reform, and rebuilding agricultural production on a modern technical and scientific basis.

— Nationalisation of major monopolistic concessions for independent national development in the interest of the large popular masses and under the control of the progressive democratic forces, and creation and development of a public sector in major branches of economy.

— Mobilisation of material, financial and human resources making optimal use of these for the establishment of a modern industrial economy, increase of productivity on the basis of long-term plans for the welfare of the masses.

— Undertaking general democratic transformations for the welfare and participation of the workers and their progressive political organisations.

It can be concluded from the experience of the Afro-Asian countries, that the countries which declared their socialist orientation were able more than others to confront imperialist attacks, and realise economic independence and progressive socio-economic transformations.

In face of the victories of the developing countries, the imperialist forces resort to some kind of blackmail, threats,

and aggression against the developing countries with the aim of regaining their economic positions and greedy interests, and imposing their domination over those countries.

Therefore, the third meeting of the AAPSO Presidium strongly condemns the imperialist countries' threats, particularly U.S. imperialism, against the developing countries. The meeting also expresses solidarity with the developing countries' just struggle for economic independence, national sovereignty and right to choose their way of development.

The meeting voices, as well, absolute support for the important resolutions adopted by the U.N. General Assembly at its Sixth and Seventh Extraordinary Sessions in defence of the interests of the developing countries and for the creation of equitable economic relations through the establishment of a new international economic system. The endeavour to put these resolutions into effect should be among the prominent future tasks undertaken by AAPSO.

The Third AAPSO Presidium considers that the growth of the movement of non-alignment, in the recent period, has been playing an important role in the struggle for decolonization and development. In this context the unity of the non-aligned countries and the Third World in general with the Soviet Union and other Socialist countries has decisively changed the balance of forces in favour of the whole progressive mankind. This unity has compelled imperialism to retreat in various political and economic fields.

On grounds of economic and social development tasks faced by the Afro-Asian countries, and in accordance with the principles of the Organisation and previous resolutions of its leading bodies, the third meeting of the Presidium, held in Aden on January 19-20, 1976, recommends that the Permanent Secretariat :

1. Convene a preparatory meeting in March 1976 concerning the Development Symposium due to be held in Baghdad in 1976;

2. Convene an international meeting to draw up tangible practical measures towards the establishment of an AAPSO research centre, to which it would invite scholars from member organisations to attend in Baghdad in March 1976;

3. Participate with Peace and Solidarity Council in Iraq in arranging for the International Symposium on Development due to be held in June, 1976 in Baghdad, Iraq;

4. Convene a seminar on the food problem in Africa (July 1976, in Tananarive, Madagascar).

5. Convene a seminar on the public sector, in the second half of 1976 in Warsaw, Poland;

6. Convene an international symposium on the role of anti-imperialist unified fronts and its importance for the countries following the non-capitalist course (second half of 1976 in Sofia, Bulgaria);

7. Convene a symposium on cooperatives (early in 1977 in Czechoslovakia);

8. Convene an international symposium on training national cadres.

**A MESSAGE OF GREETING
TO THE HOST COUNTRY**

Comrade Abdel Fattah Ismail, Secretary General of the Central Committee of the Unified Political Organization — The National Front.

We, participants to the Third Session of the Presidium, members of the Presidium and of the Permanent Secretariat, delegates of many Solidarity Committees in Africa, Asia and Socialist countries, as well as representatives of many world democratic organizations in which are embodied all wide circles of world public opinion, extend our sincerest and cordial greetings to the people of the Democratic Republic of Yemen, and our best wishes to its political vanguard (the Unified Organization — the National Front) and its wise revolutionary leadership. We express our true thanks for the generous hospitality and warm welcome with which we were met. We regard, with pride and estimation, the gains and progressive achievements realised by the working popular masses of Democratic Yemen during the past eight years. We are fully confident that these masses which have wrenched independence ably and steadfastly, will valiantly continue their struggle on the path of achieving the tasks of the democratic, national revolution, for defending its Yemeni revolution and implementing its five-year plan, along with building its vanguard party.

We are pleased to note that the progressive method to which the revolutionary leadership of Democratic Yemen is committed at home and abroad receives constant support and consolidation by democratic and progressive world public opinion throughout the world. Therefore, the convening of

the Third Session for the Presidium of AAPSO in the capital of your progressive and democratic country is a world political demonstration in which the peoples of Asia, Africa, the socialist countries as well as the progressive powers in capitalist countries express solidarity with the struggle of the Democratic Yemeni people for strengthening its political and economic independence, and building its new life; and with its struggle against imperialism and reactionism which seek to escalate conspiracies, provocations and aggressions against the people and land of Democratic Yemen, in an attempt to hinder its march on the path of liberation and progress. We heartily wish more success for the friendly people of the Democratic Yemen, and we express, once again, our deep gratitude for the generosity we have found everywhere, and the true spirit of cooperation for the realization of all success sought by the Third Session of our Presidium. We specially thank all the dear comrades working at the Peace and Solidarity Council in Democratic Yemen, we thank them for all the positive and great results we have reached in the present session of our Presidium held at this critical stage of the struggle of our peoples against reactionary and imperialist conspiracies.

MESSAGE TO COMRADE YASSER ARAFAT

**Chairman of the Palestine Liberation
Organization Executive Committee,
Commander General of the Palestine
Liberation Forces**

The Presidium meeting of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization held in Aden on January 19-20, 1976, having followed with great concern the bloody massacres committed by the isolationist and reactionary forces in Lebanon backed by the imperialist and Zionist forces against the Palestinian people and their national revolution, and the Lebanese people and their national progressive movement, expresses denunciation of this abhorrent conspiracy aimed at the Palestinian revolution and people, and the Lebanese national movement. It considers it an imperialist criminal conspiracy connected with the imperialist and Zionist machinations in the region. In the name of all the people of Asia and Africa as well as the progressive forces in the world represented at the meeting, we express our full solidarity with your just struggle, the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese national movement and pledge to continue the struggle on our part for rallying world public opinion in denouncing and putting an end to the conspiracy.

**MESSAGE TO HIS EXCELLENCY
THE PRESIDENT OF THE LEBANESE REPUBLIC**

The Presidium Meeting of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization attended by representatives of all the peoples of Asia, Africa and Europe and the international organizations expresses its full denunciation of the atrocious conspiracy and bloody massacres perpetrated by the isolationist and fascist forces in Lebanon against the Palestinian revolution and masses and against the Lebanese national forces and discerns in it an imperialist Zionist plan aiming at the liquidation of the Palestinian revolution, the division of Lebanon and the creation of new racist regime to be a reserve for Israel in the Arab region.

We strongly condemn this conspiracy, demand your personal interference to stop it and its continuation is your own responsibility. The peoples of Asia and Africa will firmly stand against the genocide of the Palestinian people and the Lebanese national movement. They will do all in their might to stop the genocide being perpetrated by the isolationist, fascist and Zionist forces against the peoples of Lebanon and Palestine.

MESSAGE TO HER EXCELLENCY

SIRIMAVO BANDARANAIKE

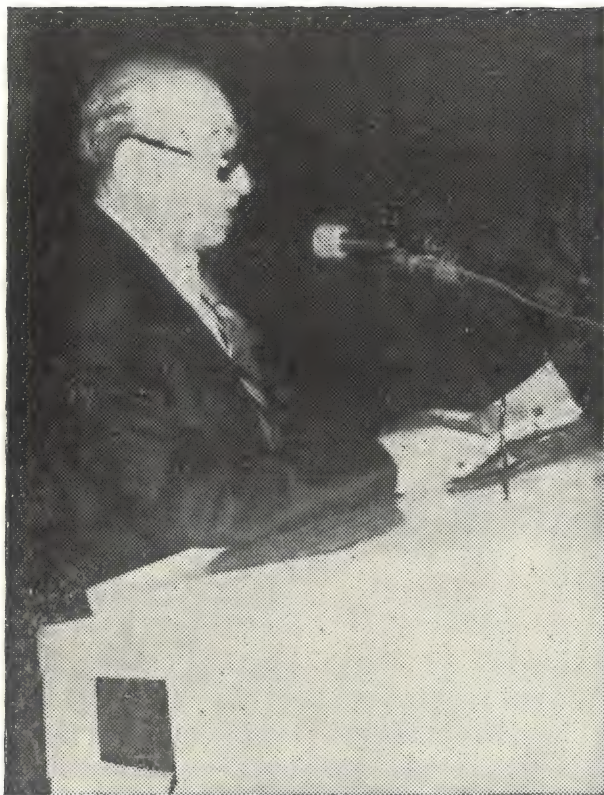
Prime Minister

Government of Sri Lanka,

Colombo

The Third Presidium of Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organisation meeting in Aden takes pleasure in conveying to Your Excellency its sincere greetings and best wishes for peaceful development and all round progress of the people of Sri Lanka in the New Year. The AAPSO Presidium highly values and appreciates the role of Sri Lanka under your leadership in the struggles for decolonization, economic development, detente and disarmament. Sri Lanka has been playing a leading role in the great anti-imperialist movement of non-alignment. It is, therefore, fitting that the forthcoming Summit Conference of non-aligned countries will be held in Colombo. The AAPSO Presidium is confident that the Colombo Summit will be a new landmark in cementing the unity and solidarity of all anti-imperialist forces, i.e. the Socialist countries, the non-aligned countries, the national liberation movements and all other progressive forces. Only such unity will defeat imperialists, neo-colonialists, and fascist conspiracies in the Third World. AAPSO Presidium specially concerned over the situation in Angola appeals to non-aligned countries to recognise People's Republic of Angola led by MPLA President Agostinho Neto without delay. We feel non-aligned countries have a historic responsibility to compel US imperialists and South African racists to get out of Angola together with their puppets. Imperialist interference neo-fascist conspiracies and exploitation by multi-national cooperation and military bases like Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean must be liquidated.

The Third AAPSO Presidium believes Colombo Summit participants will rise to the occasion taking up the present challenges and give bold leadership accelerating onward march of peace-loving nations to all round progress. Please once more accept our high regards and assurances of our continued solidarity and support for common objectives.



**Vice-President of AAPSO Aziz Sherif speaking at the
3rd meeting of the Presidium.**

SPEECH BY
Mr. AZIZ SHERIF
Vice-President of the Presidium,
AT THE CLOSING SESSION

Comrade President Abdel Fattah Ismail,

It gives me pleasure to extend my heartfelt warm wishes and profound appreciation to you and to your comrades in the leadership of the United Political Organization, the National Front, and to all the responsables and members in the Yemeni Council for Peace and Solidarity.

I address you in the name of the third Presidium meeting of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization and in the name of the Permanent Secretariat and the General Secretary, our brother Mr. Youssef El Sebai and on my personal behalf.

The constant attention you accorded to the Organization and patronage of this meeting today, your warm welcome to the members and the sincere collaboration and cooperation with them, your responsible and highly significant speech to which we have all listened with comprehension — all factors which arouse our admiration and strengthens our confidence in our mission's success. Above and beyond all, you and your comrades strike an inspiring example as you adhere to authenticity and democracy in your revolutionary conduct as you guide this brave republic.

This is not due to a fleeting impression from our experience with you in these current days, but as a result of our increasing knowledge constantly enriched and corrected by following the progress of this valiant republic.

A responsible appreciation by the national forces in their entirety, its determination to maintain unity and the formation of the United Political Organization, the National Front,

the role of each force in evaluating the importance of this body and firmly achieving its aims. The march of this republic behind its political leadership towards total liberation, proceeding decisively towards socialism, armed by a complete consciousness and rectification inspired by experience — all this imparts on us wide hopes and trust in pursuing its progressive revolutionary strides.

Your presiding over the Yemeni Council for Peace and Solidarity is a definite proof of this country's policy, the policy of consolidating world peace and solidarity with the liberation and progressive forces against imperialism and reaction. I do not fear being called subjective when I express my pleasure and personal esteem for your leadership.

Comrades,

Our meeting here in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen is a profound expression of the solidarity forces of the peoples' of two continents, appraising this sound policy. It is an international demonstration in the name of the peoples of two continents to support the people and government of this republic against conspiracies hatched by international imperialism and local reaction. Indeed, you stand in the front line of our peoples' struggle in this area. In our name and on behalf of the liberation movement in the two continents, and all over the world, we give you our full support. We back you and will do our utmost to enhance your efforts to defend the sisterly People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, its national front and its political leadership, and unite its revolutionary march. This unity whose first and last role is to fulfil its historical tasks.

Dear friends,

It gives me pleasure to reaffirm the speech of the Secretary General of the United Political Organization, the National Front, Comrade Abdel Fattah Ismail and the report of the Secretary General of the Organization, our brother Mr. Youssef El Sebai, concerning support to the peoples' struggle for full liberation and consolidate peace for continuous progress. Above all, the most important issue is our support to

the brave people of Oman led by the National Front for the Liberation of Oman confronted by a multilateral imperialist and reactionary plot. Most dangerous is the foreign military intervention which not only represents aggression against this revolutionary people but against the interests of our Arab peoples and presence in the area. This conspiracy is carried out with the convenience of the reactionary client government, the plotting and desertion of some Arab powers. I declare our firm stand behind the anti-imperialist peace and liberation front in supporting the people and government of popular Angola led by the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, headed by Comrade Agostinho Neto. Popular Angola not only defends its entity but also the liberation forces in Africa against imperialism, racism and neo-colonialist forces as well as against all other interventions which join ranks with international imperialism and reaction.

We release our condemnation of the heinous imperialist reactionary conspiracy to split Lebanon through annihilating its citizens and widely destroying their property and impeding their daily life.

Lebanon and the Lebanese people face their share of American and Zionist imperialism's plot against the Arab Palestinian people in particular, as part of a general conspiracy throughout the Arab world. We urge the progressive Arab powers and governments to accomplish their historic duty by exercising a collective and responsible farsighted policy to stop the bloodshed and sabotage, and to protect the integrity and the entity of Lebanon.

Dear friends participating in this meeting, allow me, finally, to extend to you and to the people and government of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, its political leadership, and President Salem Rabie Ali, the greetings of our people in Iraq, Iraq's national forces and President Ahmed Hassan El Bakr.

I have the honour to convey to you, coming from Iraq, a country that has always been in the forefront of the struggle to liquidate imperialist interests, support for your honourable endeavour and our hopes for achieving success.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

A) COUNTRIES MEMBERS OF PRESIDIUM

1 — PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

The Unified Political Organization — National Front

- Mr. Abdel Fattah Ismail, President of the Third Meeting of the AAPSO Presidium
- Mr. Abdalla Badeeb
- Mr. Anis Hassan Yehia
- Mr. Ali Badeeb
- Mr. Mohammed Saleh Mootee
- Mr. Salem Saleh
- Mr. Abdel Ghani Abdel Kader
- Cr. Abdel Aziz Al-Dali
- Dr. Mohamed Jaa'far

2 — ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

- Mr. Youssef El Sebai, Chairman of the AAPSO Presidium — Sec. Gen. of AAPSO.

3 — REPUBLIC OF IRAQ

National Council for Peace and Solidarity

- Mr. Aziz Sherif, Vice Chairman of the AAPSO Presidium.
- Dr. Mehdi Al-Haffez
- Mr. Abdel Ghany Abdel Ghafor

4 — CYPRUS

Cyprus Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee

- Dr. Vasos Lyssarides, Vice Chairman of the AAPSO Presidium.

5 — ALGERIA

Front National de Libération

- Mr. Gheraieb Abdelkrim
- Mr. Bentou-Mi Amar
- Mr. Koutoumi Saddek

6 — ANGOLA

Movimento Popular de Libertacao de Angola

- Mr. Manuel Pedro Pakavira, (Head)
- Mr. Joao De Sousa Webba

7 — GUINEA BISSAU

Partido Africano de Independencia da Guinea Bisao & Capo-Verde

- Mr. Francisco Ba

8 — INDIA

The All India Peace and Solidarity Organization

- Mr. Shekhar Ganguly

9 — KOREA P.D.R.

Korean Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity

- Mr. Zin Chang Ho
- Mr. Han Ho Chong
- Mr. Choi Si Chol

10 — NAMIBIA

South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO)

— Mr. Mishake Muyongo

11 — PALESTINE

Palestine Afro-Asian Peace and Solidarity Committee

— Mr. Abdulla Al Horani, (Head)

— Mr. Hayder Ibrahim

— Mr. Sherif Meshal

12 — SOUTH AFRICA

African National Congress

— Mr. Sobizana Mngoikana

13 — SYRIA

Afro-Asian People' Solidarity Organization

— Mr. Atia El Godah, (Head)

— Dr. Moustafa Amin

— Mr. Issa Khalil

14 — U.S.S.R.

Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee

— Mr. Babadjan Gafurof, (Head)

— Mr. Gregori Shumeika

— Mr. Oleg Kgratiev

— Mr. Dimitri Zavgorodni

B) ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

15 — Solidarity Committee of G.D.R.

— Mr. Kurt Zeibt, (Head)

- Dr. Siegfried Buttner
- Mr. Sonny Augst
- Mr. Christian Kleinhempel
- 16 — Czechoslovak Committee of Solidarity
with the Nations of Africa and Asia**
 - Mrs. Marie Hruskova, (Head)
 - Mr. Artur Bernasek
- 17 — Hungarian Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee**
 - Mr. Andras Kereskty
- 18 — Committee for Friendship and Solidarity with the
People of Africa and Asia in Bulgaria**
 - Mr. Vassel Balevsvy

C) INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- 19 — World Council of Peace**
 - Mr. Chitta Biswas
- 20 — Executive Secretariat of the Tricontinental**
 - Mr. Mohamed Hasson Kassawat, (Head)
 - Mr. Ramon Perez Yers
 - Mr. Rodolfo Medina Diaz
- 21 — Women's International Democratic Federation**
 - Mrs. Inji Efflatoun
 - Mrs. Fathia Mohamed Abdulla
- 22 — World Federation of Democratic Youth**
 - Mr. Sanaa Abou Chacra

23 — World Federation of Trade Unions

— Mr. Ali Djawaheri

24 — International Union of Democratic Students

— Mr. Rashid Mohamed Ali Amin

— Mr. Ponamariov

D) NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

25 — CHILE

**Le Bureau d'Information de la Résistance
Anti-Fasciste Chilienne**

— Mr. Jose Oyarce

26 — EGYPT

Egyptian Afro-Asian Solidarity

— Mr. Kamal Bahaa El Din

— Dr. Sami Sadek

27 — FINLAND

Finish Peace Council

— Mr. Mikko Lohikoski

28 — GUINEA

Parti Démocratique de Guinée

— Mr. Fodo Soriba Camara

29 — OMAN

Peoples' Liberation Front of Oman

— Mr. Mohamed Ahmed El Ghassani

— Mr. Sa'id Mass'oud

30 — DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF SOMALIA

Somali National Solidarity Committee

— Mr. Dahir Warsame Yusuf

31 — SRI-LANKA

Afro-Asian Solidarity Council

— Ven Rev. Ratanasara

32 — FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Anti-Imperialist Solidarity Committee

— Mr. Peter Dietzel

33 — ZIMBABWE

African National Council (Zimbabwe)

— Mr. E. Malandu

E) PERMANENT SECRETARIAT

Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization

— Mr. Youssef El Sebai

Secretary General

— Mr. Nouri Abdel Razak

Deputy Secretary General (Iraq)

— Mr. Omprakash Paliwal

Deputy Secretary General (India)

— Mr. Zoubair Seif El Islam

Algeria

— Mr. M. Gaspar Neto

Angola

— Mr. R. Katayanagi

Japan

— Dr. Samandar Kalandarov

U.S.S.R.

- Mr. Vladimir Cherchoukov
U.S.S.R.
- Miss Eva Ranaweera
Sri-Lanka
- Mr. Joseph Nhlanhla
South Africa
- Mr. Mohamed Sobeih
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- Mr. Osman Banani
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- Mr. Abdul Galil Ghilan
P.D.R. of Yemen
- Dr. Gerhard Gerth
G.D.R.
- Miss Bahia Karam

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